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Volume 71, Issue 16 · www.wilcoxnewspapers.com
Thursday, October 16, 2025

Beltran relishes role with Otsego-Plainwell Area Chamber

By Jason Wesseldyk
Sports Editor

Earlier this year, the Otsego-Plainwell Area Chamber of Commerce found itself in need of a new executive director after Jenny DeBoer left the position after seven years to join the Southwest Michigan First Chamber in Kalamazoo.

Enter Miranda Beltran.

A resident of Plainwell since 2016, Beltran knows full well what it's like to be a small-business owner in the area, having opened a clothing boutique in 2017.

"I've always had a strong passion for helping small businesses succeed," Beltran said. "After running my own boutique, I understood firsthand the challenges business owners face. It's hard trying to grow, stay visible and juggle it all.

"So when the Chamber role opened, it felt like a natural fit. It gave me the chance to use my business experience and community connections to support others, bring people together and help local businesses thrive."

Since taking over as executive director, Beltran has been connecting with as many of the Chambers' approximately 200 members as possible.

"Everyone has been so welcoming and open," she said. "I've really enjoyed getting to know business owners and hearing their stories. Many have shared great ideas and genuine excitement about the direction the Chamber is headed, and I've appreciated how supportive and collaborative they've been through this transition. I'm looking forward to meeting more of them."

A common theme Beltran has found when talking to business owners is a sense of community.

Sure, each owner is focused on finding ways to help their own business grow and thrive. But they also want the other businesses in the area to do the same.

"Local businesses here have such a genuine care for one another and for the area as a whole," Beltran said. "There's a real willingness to collaborate, share ideas and show up for community events.

Miranda Beltran

"The Chamber already had a strong foundation when I stepped in, and the members' passion for both business growth and community involvement is inspiring."

Beltran, who grew up in Pontiac before settling in Plainwell with her husband Robert, said most business owners are also facing similar challenges.

"The most commonly discussed (challenges) are staffing, increasing visibility and adapting to the changing economy," she said. "Many businesses are trying to figure out how to bring in more local customers while balancing the pressures of social media, technology and marketing.

"That's where I see the Chamber playing a bigger role to help bridge those gaps and give businesses the tools and exposure they need."

To that end, Beltran's vision for the Chamber includes providing business owners with modern tools and ideas to help them grow.

"I want the Chamber to be a resource hub," she said. "A place where businesses feel supported, connected, and empowered. That means creating new networking opportunities, streamlining processes with tools like Glue Up and strengthening partnerships across both Otsego and Plainwell.

"This community has such an incredible mix of creativity, dedication and small-town heart. Ultimately, I want the Chamber to reflect the heart of this community."

And while she's enjoyed her time at the Chamber so far, Beltran is even more excited to see what the future holds.

"My goal is to continue building programs and partnerships that help local businesses not just survive, but really thrive," she said. "There's a lot of exciting growth ahead, and I'm proud to be part of it."

OPS sparks debate after removing short story from curriculum

By Elizabeth Ferszt
Contributing Writer

In a debate over banning a short story that was part of its eighth-grade curriculum, the Otsego School Board and superintendent have decided to err on the side of caution.

District officials decided the dystopian fantasy short story "Ponies" by Kij Johnson (2010) was/is too violent and may trigger mental health concerns.

Otsego Public Schools superintendent Christie Robinson said the story was reevaluated after receiving feedback from some parents who were concerned about its appropriateness for middle schoolers.

"We received concerns from a few parents regarding the short story 'Ponies' by Kij Johnson for its maturity level and content," Robinson said in a statement. "We then referenced the administrative guidelines for a review process.

"After going through the review process, which included our curriculum directors, principals, teachers, as well as a consultation with a social worker, it was removed due to the violence, rated maturity level recommendations and concerns from a mental health perspective."

A teacher in the district who wished to remain anonymous had concerns about the decision to remove the story.

"The teachers actually reached out to the author and confirmed it was a story written for 9–12-year-olds, girls in particular," the teacher said. "This story was part of our board-approved curriculum. If a parent objects to something in our curriculum, then our teachers happily accommodate those parents with alternative texts.

"That was not the case this time. Instead, a decision was made in three days to pull it—while the teachers were in the middle of the unit—and the board-approved process was not followed.

"Our board guidelines state that a committee will be formed consisting of a variety of people, including teachers, and that a recommendation will be made to the superintendent regarding a story's inclusion in a unit."

The story was not published in a traditional short fiction anthology or literature textbook. Nor has it been reviewed or written about in scholarly or academic journals.

According to AI Overview: "Kij Johnson's short story 'Ponies' is not on JSTOR (an academic or library database), but it is available to read and is the subject of literary discussion. It won the 2011 Nebula Award for Best Short Story and is a modern allegory about social pressure, peer pressure, and conformity, told through the story of a girl who must cut parts off her magical pony to fit in with the other girls."

According to an AP English specialist, the story "Ponies" is not seen to have the same literary merit as say, "Harrison Bergeron" (1961) by Kurt Vonnegut, Jr., which deals with similar teenage angst, cruelty, and extreme peer pressure, set in a dystopian future.

"Ponies" was first published at Tor.com, which is a science fiction and fantasy online self-publication website that is geared to YA (Young Adult) fiction genres; it asks (immediately upon landing): "Are you under 18 years old?"

Current articles and titles include: "Where the Hell is Nirvana? by Champ Wongsatayanont (Oct. 8, 2025); and "Rebellion, Activism, Imagination: Why we need witched more than ever" by Asa West (Oct. 8, 2025); and "Creeping Fungus: Nine Works of Sporror" by Leticia Urieta (Oct. 8, 2025). Author pseudonyms seem to be encouraged.

Currently, "Ponies" is no longer listed on, or hosted by, the Tor.com website.

City of Otsego restarts inspection program for rental property

By Jason Wesseldyk
Sports Editor

The City of Otsego is back in the renal inspection business.

After pausing the program a decade ago in response to a ruling by the Michigan Supreme Court that involved a case in Detroit, Otsego announced it will once again be enforcing its Rental Inspection Ordinance.

"I am about as passionate about rental inspections as one can be," Otsego City Manager Aaron Mitchell said. "I see this as a vital service that we provide our residents."

The City has partnered with Professional Code Inspections (PCI) to conduct inspections for the program, which has two primary components: registration and an inspection.

The ordinance requires residential rental property owners to register their rental for $65 and to be inspected for $75 every three years. The registration must stay active with the current property owner's contact information

"While some may complain about the additional costs that they will have to pay and be passed on to the tenant, I would say that nominal cost is small in comparison to what they charge in rent and well worth it to assure that their property is safe for their tenant," Mitchell said.

Letters from PCI have begun going out to rental-property owners.

"It will be a process to get through the rentals, so you may not receive any notifications in the first round of letters," Mitchell said. "But for those who do receive a letter from PCI, please respond as detailed in the letter.

"After that, the next step will be to assure the registration is up to date and getting an inspection scheduled."

After originally passing the Rental Inspection Ordinance more than a decade ago, Otsego completed "a few rounds" of inspections until a similar program in the City of Detroit was deemed illegal in 2015.

The reason the program was ruled to be illegal, according to Mitchell, is that only the property owner's signature was required for the application.

"The court ruled that in those situations, a tenant's Fourth Amendment rights were being violated as an illegal search and seizure," Mitchell said. "That paused our inspection program for years.

"We modified the application to include the tenant's signature as well, but COVID then added some additional delays."

Mitchell acknowledged that some rental-property owners may not want to participate in the program and simply ignore the letters.

He warned against doing that.

"This is an ordinance and will be met with a citation if it continues to be ignored," he said. "Plus, at the end of the day, it is a win-win for property owners and tenants.

"The property owner can rest assured knowing that the property is safe for its tenants and the tenants obviously will know that they are living in a safe home."

If tenants have concerns about the safety of their residence, the City will respond to requests for inspections outside of the normal inspection schedule.

"If a violation is found, the owner is charged the (inspection) fee and if no violation is found the tenant is charged," Mitchell said.

According to Mitchell, the standard the City follows is set by the International Property Maintenance Code when it comes to rental-property inspections.

"It's pretty straight forward," Mitchell said. "We are talking about pretty simple things like non-lead paint, adequate smoke alarms, safe electrical boxes and mechanical equipment.

"My No. 1 concern in my position was to hear of a house burning down and, God forbid, there be damages or the loss of life at a rental only to find out that there were warning signs that should have been investigated. The implementation of these inspections will ensure that doesn't happen.

Questions about the inspection program can be directed to Mitchell via email at amitchell@cityofotsego.org or by phone at (269) 694-6146.

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Allegan finally has a new laundromat

By Gari Voss

In 2021, the Wash Out Center on Marshall Street closed because of problems with infrastructure caused by tree roots that plugged water pipes running under the parking lot and created backups. The expense for repairs was deemed too high for the owners to handle. The closure left Allegan without a public laundromat, and people scrambled to find places to clean their clothes.

Enter Todd Fisher…

Todd Fisher went online on October 9th to update the Allegan area residents by sharing, "I'm getting it closer. It's been a challenge starting from scratch. It will have a little kids area and 2 tanning beds, 17 washers, and 21 dryers. We will also be doing a laundry service so you can drop your laundry off and pick it up 24 hours later. Our hours will be 8 am to 12 midnight."

Many did not realize that Fisher was creating a laundromat in the previous gym next to Subway. That announcement solicited cheers from those who have been traveling to Plainwell or beyond to do all their basic laundry or their larger items. When the new laundromat opens, customers will have options of 12 three-load washers, 4 six-load washers, or 1 eight-load washer. These will be supported by dryers of different sizes.

The amenities of a children's play area complete with a television and two tanning beds caught the attention of social media surfers. Online followers of Allegan Informed have expressed that they are ready for the opening.

The journey to establish the laundromat has taken patience. The building's electrical feed needed an upgrade which took working through conflicting information from Consumers Energy advisors. The electrical load was solved after a bit of frustration. Luckily, only the natural gas meter needed to be replaced to handle the 2 million BTUs required to support the bank of dryers, hot water heater, and furnace.

The machines are a combination of Speed Queens and Dexter. Fisher shared that both brands are top of the line. When looking for machines, Fisher explored offerings from around the United States until he located some in Brandon, Florida. With some scouting by his daughter who lives about a half hour from the Brandon shop, Fisher found that the owners were honest about the condition of the machines. The hold up was that they were waiting for their new machines. Hence, this took a bit of time, but Fisher felt the machines had been well taken care of.

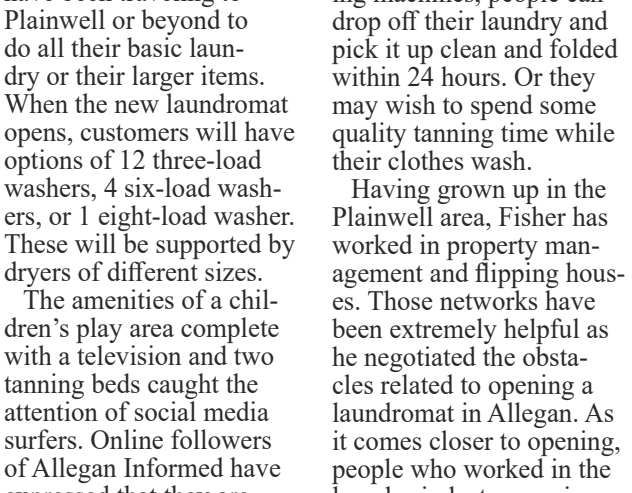
Fisher and his family are doing the majority of the renovation. With assistance from his daughters and a few other friends, Todd plans to open the laundromat within a month. Also available will be detergents and softeners for those who may have neglected to bring the basics.

In addition to the washing machines, people can drop off their laundry and pick it up clean and folded within 24 hours. Or they may wish to spend some quality tanning time while their clothes wash.

Having grown up in the Plainwell area, Fisher has worked in property management and flipping houses. Those networks have been extremely helpful as he negotiated the obstacles related to opening a laundromat in Allegan. As it comes closer to opening, people who worked in the laundry industry previously have inquired about employment.

Though this is a business, it is also a service to the community focused on those who do not have proper clothes washing facilities in their homes. Though Fisher is not certain of his clientele, he realizes that it will take time to build a customer base.

The Fisher family is working diligently to finish the last of the improvements at their new Hometown Laundromat on Marshall Street next to the Subway and across from McDonalds. The facility is scheduled to open in mid to late November 2025 and will house washers, dryers, a children's play area, and tanning beds. Pictured: The Fisher family - Briana, her daughter Maelani, Todd, and Emma. Photo: G. Voss



The new laundromat on Marshall Street that is slated to open mid to late November 2025 houses a children's area, 2 tanning beds, 17 washers, and 21 dryers. Todd Fisher, who has entered into this endeavor, has successfully hurdled several obstacles in getting the business up and running. Photo: G. Voss

Correction:

The old Steven's Hotel in Fennville is being restored by the DePree family. The renovated hotel will be the Wine Trail Inn and will keep many historic elements while adding new amenities. The Inn is scheduled to open for the tourist season 2026.

Ways to Participate in Breast Cancer Awareness Month

Each October, communities across the nation join together for Breast Cancer Awareness Month—a time to promote education, support survivors, and advance research toward a cure. From charity events to simple acts of kindness, there are countless ways for individuals and organizations to get involved.

One of the most recognized ways to take part is through charity walks and runs. Events like Making Strides Against Breast Cancer and the Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure unite thousands of people each year. These gatherings raise vital funds for research, screenings, and patient support services, while also honoring those who have battled the disease. Many participants walk in memory of loved ones, turning every mile into a symbol of strength and solidarity.

Wearing pink has also become a hallmark of the month. Whether it's through a "Pink Out" day at work or school, or just by choice, the color serves as a universal show of support. Some communities even go further, illuminating landmarks, storefronts, and city halls in pink lights as a public tribute to awareness and hope.

Education is another key focus. Health organizations, hospitals, and clinics often host informational seminars and free mammogram screenings during October. These initiatives remind individuals of the importance of early detection and self-examinations. Knowing one's family medical history and undergoing regular screenings can make all the difference in identifying breast cancer early, when treatment is most effective.

Local businesses often find creative ways to contribute too. Restaurants may feature pink-themed specials, and retailers might donate proceeds from certain products to breast cancer charities. Even small-scale efforts like bake sales, raffles, or donation jars at checkout counters can collectively raise significant funds.

On a more personal level, offering emotional and practical support to those affected by breast cancer makes a tremendous impact. Preparing meals, providing transportation to treatments, or simply listening can offer comfort during a difficult journey. Survivors often emphasize how much these gestures mean in sustaining morale through recovery.

Each act of participation—whether it's walking, donating, volunteering, or simply wearing pink—plays an influential role in supporting ongoing research and patient care. Together, these collective efforts move society closer to a future where breast cancer can be prevented, detected early, and ultimately cured.

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Seven seek vacant Allegan council seat, no temporary fencing allowed

By Gari Voss

The Allegan City Council took its first step to create revenue bonds that will support the Rossman Park Neighborhood, downtown streets, and Grand Street. A special meeting will be held on Thursday, October 23, 2025, beginning at 5:30pm to interview applicants for the empty City Council position.

Public Hearings and Adoption of Ordinance

The Public Hearing was held, and the Second Reading and adoption of Ordinance 531 to amend the City Zoning Ordinance regarding fences were completed. The motion passed. Ordinance 531 was not completed properly during the rewrite of the Allegan Zoning Ordinance. By completing the language, all fencing is to be permanently affixed to the ground as to negate the ability for temporary construction fencing to be used as permanent fencing.

Reports
Downtown Development Authority

The review of the October 2025 Downtown Development Authority Meeting Minutes found that the DDA did a review of crosswalk projects on Water Street and pedestrian signs. The members supported a motion that would forbid the establishment of commercial highway use of the County Overflow Lot at the corner of Water and Cutler Streets. Thoughts were shared to update the downtown building section of the Downtown Master Plan for 2025-2030. Assistant Manager Parker Johnson shared that there would be a joint meeting with the Planning Commission to adhere to the requirements for recertification and review the process.

Airport Advisory Board

The August and October 2025 Airport Advisory Board set a date of the Fly-In for June 20, 2026, and the rain date of June 21st. A person is interested in baling the areas along the runway. This would put some money in the coffers, but additional questions need to be answered. This would bring in some money while keeping the lawn mowed. There is only one of the older hangers for rent. The new hangers are not yet ready. Three seats come up for renewal, and this must be addressed.

Water Utilities

The request to adopt Resolution 25.29 to purchase, acquire and construct improvements to the sanitary sewer system and to publish a notice of intent to issue revenue bonds was approved after discussion.

Discussion returned to issuing revenue bonds to cover the costs of necessary improvements in the Rossman Park Neighborhood, streets downtown and Grant Street. The City works with a Bonding Consultant as well as a Bonding Council. Dickenson Wrights lawyer Roger Swets, who specializes in bonds, spoke on the bond process from the legal view, and Steven Burke of MFCI spoke on the financial perspective.

The Notice of Intent begins the process. The city would issue revenue bonds, one water and one sewer that can only be paid from revenue in those areas and will not expose the city's debt limits. Swets explained the steps to finance and set a maximum dollar amount. Once adopted, a newspaper piece will be published for 45 days to inform the public. There are "not to exceed" amounts. By using numbers that are safely high, time is saved for examining bids, because there are cushions to the amounts. When bids are in hand, there is a time limit for approval. Time is saved by identifying the city manager and staff to award the bonds. Finally, the bids will be awarded, and things will move forward. An Official Notice of Sale will be published nationally and beyond. Usually, the project is awarded to the lowest bidder. Then closing documents are prepared and construction begins.

The timing of the process ensures that bids go out in late December with the award happening in early February 2026 with a March 2026 completion. They should be fixed-rate bonds.

Steven Burke, financial advisor with MFCI, has fiduciary responsibilities to act in the city's best interest in sizing the bonds. MFCI lays out the numbers and ensures that the city can pay for the bonds. 20, 25 and 30 year rates are exposed. Bonds, when sold, will be broken up into years to maturity. The estimated 4% is a blended yield of all years to maturity.

Water Supply System

The request to adopt Resolution 25.30 to purchase, acquire and construct improvements to the water supply system and to publish a notice of intent to issue revenue bonds passed.

Public Works System

Sherman Stret. The request adopted Resolution 25.31 adding Sherman Street in the River Ridge Plat to the Act 51 certified mileage inventory. Adding Sherman Street to the development plan for the River Ridge Plat adds about an extra $1000 a year to the transportation funds.

Wonsey Tree Service. The request to approve PO 26-0837 to Wonsey Tree Service in the amount of $34,145 for annual tree trimming and removal services passed. Tree trimming and removal service go out in the late summer or early fall. Trees are identified usually by residents for public trees. A certified arborist is contacted if there is a question about the health of a tree because some look healthy outside but are hallow on the inside.

Administrative Services

The request to approve payable in the amount of $638,893.86 and payroll in the amount of $255,331.23 for a total disbursement of $894,225.09.

Code Enforcement

Ryan Burza shared the work that he and Mohamed had done on code enforcement around the city. From May through August, there had been 74 code violation letters sent for blight. 95.9% had been brought into compliance. The city is working with two properties and one property that is ignoring all communications. Contacts will be escalated with this property. There were 289 long grass violations issued by the City. Of those, 23 long grass abatements were corrected by the City. The pair will continue to do the drive throughs every two weeks.

Allegan County Legal Assistance

The amount of $2,500 to assist in providing legal assistance services passed with acknowledgement that working with documents can be confusing and the work done in the center is extremely important.

Linda Teeter reviewed the breath of services for the Allegan County Legal Assistance Center that is now on the first floor of the courthouse and assist with a broad range of civil matters. The Largest % of users are ALICE (Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed) and the next is older residents. Teeter requested that the City budget $2500 to help cover expenses until June 30, 2026. MI Legal Help is a nonprofit that is accessed through an online platform so there are no funds attached.

Allegan County Heroes

The request from Allegan County Heroes for use of the Griswold Auditorium at a reduced rate on October 30th rehearsal and November 1st, 2025, event for their annual fundraising event.

Kim Pullen made the request to use the Griswold for the Variety Show that began in 2009. They are currently between support of a 501C3. The rate is $200 for sound and lights per day did not pass, but the motion for a total of $200 was approved. The proceeds go to providing holiday packages to veterans and service men and women. In 2024, 40 packages were sent.

Social District Permit

The request to adopt Resolution 25.32 approving a Social District Permit for Another Mother, LLC owned by the Alex and Sylene Wilkening and Ryan Wall was approved so the request could go forward with the state. It is estimated that the electrical and plumbing will be approved by inspectors. The windows have done a lot to open the space.

City Council Vacancy

The discussion regarding the process to fill the City Council vacancy came to the decision that the interviews would occur during a special meeting scheduled for October 21st at 5:30pm, and ranked voting would make the decision. By Wednesday, October 29, 2025, the vacated position must be filled. The applicants include Roger Bird, Teresa Galloway, Christopher Goodman, Charles Clark II, Gregory Butzke, Sandra Dalton, and Matthew Piwowar.

Parcel On Lowe Street

The request to authorize the City Staff to develop a Request for Proposals and solicit proposals to develop a city owned 2-acre parcel on Lowe Street into housing passed. Development companies have approached the city to develop housing using the Low Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC). The Michigan program is very competitive, and they recently released the city's scores. City Manager Joel Dye believed that the scores must have been high, because of the requests from three developers to tour the city for possible development sites. Though this property is believed to be contaminated, the developers were interested. There are extras in securing the grant if the developer works with the local government. The process is similar to what was done with 101 Brady Street, so there is a bit of comfort.

Combined Parcels

The request to combine parcels 51-280-001-00 and 51-200-057-00 from PCI passed. One smaller parcel is on N. Main and has a house. The larger parcel does not have street frontage but contains a barn. By combining the two, the owner would be in line with Allegan's building codes.

Communications from the City Manager

In regard to the Griswold, there is no problem with the council making decisions to lower rates for nonprofits. The current production that is being sponsored by the Lions Club is a fundraiser that contributes to the Griswold.

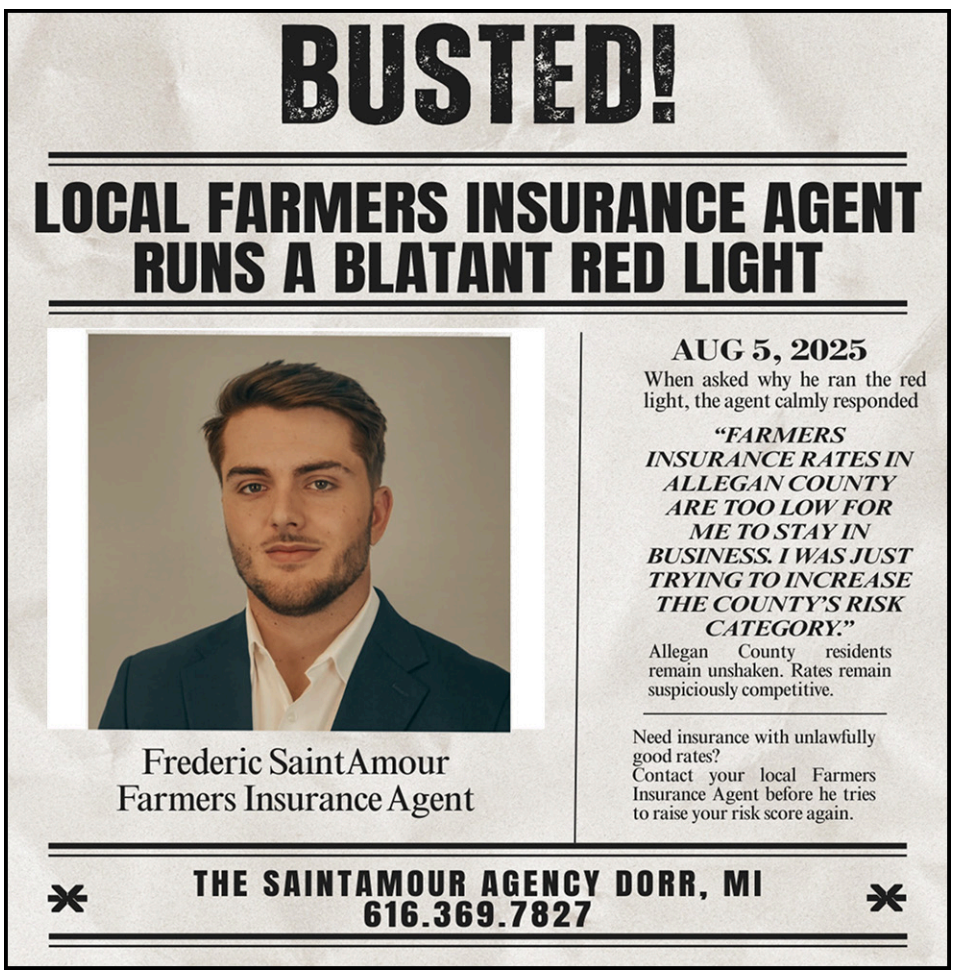
The Halloween Hoot-n-Howl was a success. Friday and Saturday brought $518.01. A-Tech sponsored 1950s movies at the Regent. The Ghost Tour had over 200 people go through for freewill donations. The giant pumpkin was sponsored by Milbocker and Sons.

Small business Saturday and Festive Fridays are rolling up quickly.

Roundtable Discussion

Councilmember Hooker asked if the City was getting any traction on the Parks and Recreation QR codes? Johnson explained that several parks are under the same code, but the QR code at the Regent Theater received $100. Hooker reminded the group that she and Councilmember Walker invite members to come and chat over coffee on October 24th from 8-10am at Mugshots.

Mayor Perrigo shared that the Hoot-n-Howl was really positive. The organic growth of the businesses doing their own thing was great. She gave a thank you to Erin Dye and Deb Adams who wrote the scripts for the Ghost Tour. Kudos went to Ryan Burza who built the phone stand for the pumpkin photo op. Maybe it can be used for a Christmas photo op.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Community Events

Community Calendar - Week of October 13, 2025

EVENTS TO WATCH FOR!

Soup-tober has started. Donate cans of soup to ACCF on Locust St. or another collection site. Info at https://alleganfoundation.org/

Fri. Oct. 17, 2025: Advocacy Bootcamp – registration due
Allegan High School Conference Center Western Ave. (M-89/M-40) Allegan

Fri., Oct. 17 & Sat., Oct. 18, 2025, 7pm: Escanaba in Da Moonlight
Griswold Auditorium Hubbard St. Allegan

Sat., Oct. 18, 2025: Color Tour & Dinner
Travel with Friends on Wednesday to Glenn, MI

Sat., Oct. 18, 2025, 10am – Sun., Oct. 19, 2025, 5pm: Arts & Eats 2025
Take a free self-guided tour of art, food and farms around Southwest Michigan. Learn more and get a map at thornapplearts.org/artsandeats.

Sat., Oct. 18, 2025, 11am: No Kings Rally
Roundabout at M-89/M-40/Hubbard St.

Tues., Oct. 21, 2025, 6-7:30pm: Come to the Table sharing session
Channing Hall 790 53rd St. Pullman

Weekends Oct 17 – Nov. 2, 2025: My Flight Helicopter Rides, Padgham Field, contact 844-644-3541.

CURRENT EVENTS

Wed., Oct. 15, 2025: Library Fun
Allegan District Library 331 Hubbard St. Allegan

3:30pm: Teen Cricut Club – 6-12 graders can create spooky shirts. Register at 269 673-4625.

6:30pm: Pub Quiz – Take a team to Tantrick Brewing and compete for fun.

Wed., Oct. 15, 2025: Bike Nights
Wayland Downtown Wayland
downtownwayland.com

Wed., Oct. 15, 2025, 5-7pm: Multi-Chamber After Hours Networking Event
Gun Lake Casino 1123 129th Ave. Wayland
Chamber Members are invited to attend with other West MI Chambers! Must register with a participating chamber to attend- **call or email to reserve your spot!** RSVP By October 2nd. No agenda – stay ten minutes or two hours, it's up to you! Bring business cards for networking.

Wed., Oct. 15, 2025, 6:30pm: Pub Quiz Night
Tantrick Brewing Co. 243 Hubbard St. Allegan
Begin registration at 5:30pm for 4 rounds of 10 questions. Bring a team of 4-6 and a library card for extra points.

Thurs., Oct. 16, 2025: Library Fun
Allegan District Library 331 Hubbard St. Allegan

10:30am: Preschool Storytime – 3-5 year olds can enjoy stories & activities

1pm: Adult Literacy Tutor Training 2 – 2nd session to become a literacy tutor. Registration required at 269 673-4626.

3:30pm: Teen Tie-Dye Club – 6-12 graders can learn to tie-dye tote bags or bandanas. Register at 269 673-4625.

6pm: Investigating the Paranormal w/Forgotten Souls – Meet the Forgotten Souls investigation team , examine ghost-hunting equipment, and check out haunting photographs. Register at 269 673-4625.

Thurs., Oct. 16, 2025, 6pm: Third Thirsty Thursday
Schaendorf Brewing Co. 420 Water St. Allegan
Drop in and network in a relaxed environment. An experience organized by the Allegan Area Chamber of Commerce and the Allegan Jaycees.

Thurs., Oct. 16, 2025, 6:30-9pm: Music Bingo Thursday
Tantrick Brewing Co Hubbard St. Allegan
No numbers, just music… Mark your card for a chance to win prizes.

Fri., Oct. 17, 2025, 10am: Sensory Play Day
Allegan District Library 331 Hubbard St. Allegan
0-7 year olds can drop in and explore the sensory bins.

Fri. Oct. 17, 2025: Advocacy Bootcamp – registration due
Allegan High School Conference Center Western Ave. (M-89/M-40) Allegan
Gain tools, strategies and confidence to advocate for your organizations. Applications are due Oct. 17th. Contact Lauren at lvanderploeg@alleganfoundation.org or (269) 673-8344 x209

Fri., Oct. 17, 2025, 10-11:30am: Aquatic Center Event
Allegan High School M-40 N Allegan
Families with children 0-5 can swim free.

Fri., Oct. 17 & Sat., Oct. 18, 2025, 7pm: Escanaba in Da Moonlight
Griswold Auditorium Hubbard St. Allegan
Allegan Lions Club and City of Allegan joint production of Jeff Daniel's Comedy Escanaba in Da Moonlight to raise money for Lions Clubs community service projects and the Griswold Auditorium improvements. Doors open at 6:00pm. $20.00 in advance and $25.00 at the door. https://griswoldauditorium.ludus.com/index.php

Sat., Oct. 18, 2025: Color Tour & Dinner
Travel with Friends on Wednesday to Glenn, MI for a color tour then the dinner at Creekside Restaurant with live music by Kevin McDaniels. $12 seniors; $14 non-seniors. Meal is extra so call for reservations, bus schedule & dinner choices. 269 673-4631.

Sat., Oct. 18, 2025, 4-6pm: Eccentric Garden Plant Workshop
Tantrick Brewing Co. 243 Hubbard St. Allegan

Sat., Oct. 18, 2025, 10am – Sun., Oct. 19, 2025, 5pm: Arts & Eats 2025
Take a free self-guided tour of art, food and farms around Southwest Michigan. Learn more and get a map at thornapplearts.org/artsandeats.

Sat., Oct. 18, 2025, 11am: No Kings Rally
Roundabout at M-89/M-40/Hubbard St.
Come and bring a sign or just join the group to express the position that the U.S. is not run by a king or a dictator. It needs to be the true voice of the people and the proper work of the Legislative, Judicial and Executive Branches. All No Kings events adhere to a shared commitment to nonviolent protest
and community safety.

Sat., Oct. 18, 2025, 5-7pm: Lasagna Dinner & Silent Auction
United Methodist Church 409 Trowbridge St. Allegan
Call for a reservation or just drop in for a great meal to eat in or take out.

Mon., Oct. 20, 2025, 3-4:30pm: Grief Support Group
Ransom District Library 180 S. Sherwood Ave. Plainwell
Come and spend time with meaningful support for challenging times.

Tues., Oct. 21, 2025, 6pm: Allegan Speak Up
Allegan District Library Hubbard St. Allegan
All are welcome to work on ways to plan events that supports diversity in the Allegan community.

Tues., Oct. 21, 2025, 6-7:30pm: Come to the Table sharing session
Channing Hall 790 53rd St. Pullman
Share your stories, ideas and experiences related to food whether your eat food, buy food, sell food, serve food, or grow food, join the Allegan Food Alliance with the goal of creating a vibrant, affordable, local food community across Allegan County. For information contact Mary Colborn at (269) 286-9084 or maryacolborn@gmail.com.

Wed., Oct. 22, 2025, 1-2:30pm: Calligraphy Class Registration
Bellflower (Schoolhouse) 4700 D Ave. Kalamazoo
Register before Aug. 28 for 6 sessions – Sept. 17, Oct. 1, 8, 15, 22, & 29. Cost of materials is $55. For more information email Dr. Bob Hosack at rlhosack967@gmail.com or call 269 349-7980.

Wed., Oct. 22, 2025, 4-6pm: Seed Collection with Allegan Conservation District
Bysterveld Park 4171 14th St. Dorr
Join Allegan Conservation District. Restoration Coordinator Ari Henson in collecting seeds. Henson will discuss ethical seed collection and how to identify seeds. There will be a seed bomb creation at the end of with what is collected. To register email Ari.Henson@macd.org.

Wed., Oct. 22, 2025, 6-8pm: Self-Hypnosis with Jeff Alisch
Presbyterian Church 200 Cutler St. Allegan
Friends on Wednesday will host Jeff Alisch who will discuss the benefits of and techniques for improving mental, emotional and physical well-being. Learn about faster relaxation, emotional regulation, breaking negative patterns, pain management, enhanced memory, and more. For info call 269 673-4631.

Wed., Oct. 22, 2025, 7pm: Understanding Your Tax Bill & State Funding of Schools
Ransom Library Plainwell
Steve Aardema, a 32 year school finance officer, & Ben Jamieson, a retired businessman with varied financial/accounting experience, will present information and lead a discussion of this important topic. Bring your tax bill for specific questions. Additional information at 1946bennyJ@gmail.com or 269 629-9628.

Thurs., Oct. 23, 2025, RSVP: Multi-Chamber Women's Event (Nov. 6th)
Bay Pointe Woods 5100 Oarie Dr. Shelbyville
Join ladies from ten local chambers to learn with Laurel Day, founder of Do Something Co., with Creativity 101: How Creativity and Connection Fuel Growth. RSVP at 269 673-2479 or director@alleganchamber.com.

Thurs., Oct. 23, 2025, 10-11am: Health Hero's Nutrition Class
TBA Fennville
Healthy cooking class for families with children ages 3-5 years old. Register in English or Spanish at bit.ly/familiesconnected2026.

Thurs., Oct. 23, 2025, 6:30-9pm: Music Bingo Thursday
Tantrick Brewing Co Hubbard St. Allegan
No numbers, just music… Mark your card for a chance to win prizes.

Fri., Oct. 24, 2025, 7pm: Bad Auditions by Bad Actors & Disaster
Sat., Oct. 25th, 3pm & 7pm
Wayland Union High School Wayland
Join the High School Theater as they present *Bad Auditions by Bad Actors*, a short comedy by Ian McWethy and *The One-Act Play, Disaster* a short comedy by Don Zolidis. Tickets online at wulactickets.ludus.com or at the door.

Sat., Oct. 25, 2025, Noon-4pm: St. Margaret's Halloween Carnival
St. Margaret's Church Otsego
All are welcome to participate in a Halloween costume contest, play carnival games, win prizes and candy, and trick-or-treat in the safety of a Trick-or-Treat Village. Those 18 and over can try their luck at the Raffle. All can join the cake walk, enjoy grilled food, and get treats from the Sweet and Salty Stand. For addition information, email maladd25@gmail.com or call 937 423-4612.

Sat., Oct. 25, 2025, 5pm: Monster Mash
Downtown Wayland 103 S. Main St. Wayland
Enjoy a live DJ Scratchy Chan, 5-7 Trunk & Treat; 7:30pm Costume Contest & lots of great food and drinks. (Oct. 31st: Trick or Treating City Wide)

Sat., Oct. 25, 2025, 2-3pm: Sip & Paint with Paulette
Tantrick Brewing Co. 243 Hubbard St. Allegan
Paint spooky season ornaments while enjoying a favorite brew. Register at Brave.Art.Carr@gmail.com. Pay at https://www.paypal.me/braveartcarr

Sat., Oct. 25, 2025, 6pm: Murder Mystery – Murder in Sin City
Fenn Valley Vineyards Fennville
Beautify Pullman invites all to enjoy a evening in Las Vegas with Elvis (aka Ron Short) and partake in not only a murder mystery, along with food & drink, raffles & prizes, Blackjack. Poker, a Money Wheel and Roulette.

Sun., Oct. 26, 2025, 4pm: Trunk or Treat
Eagles #2315 FOE 110 Chestnut St. Allegan
All are welcome to join in the fun. Prizes for the best decorated trunk.

ONGOING OPPORTUNITIES

ASSISTANCE

Adventist Community Service Center
218 S. Farmer St. Otsego Tues. 10am-4pm; Thurs. 1-5pm
Clothes for the family and household goods are available, layettes for newborns, clothing, diapers, toys, etc. for babies to 6 mo. For emergency needs, call 269 694-4775 or Marlene 269 217-8293. This is supported by the 7th-Day Adventist Church and an ACCF TAG Grant.

Allegan County Community Action - Assistance for daily living
23 Water Street, Allegan, MI 49010, www.communityactionallegan.org, (269) 673-5472
Food, weatherization, early childhood education.

Allegan Homeless Solutions - Helping eliminate barriers to housing.
108 Grant St., Plainwell MI 49080
www.alleganhomelesssolutions.org, Email: info@alleganhomelesssolutions.org

The Arc of Allegan County - Advocates for people with disabilities
219 Hubbard Street, Allegan 269 673-8841
Mission to advocate for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities in the community.

Baby Closet – Newborn Clothing and Supplies
Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd, 101 N. Walnut Street Allegan
Call 269 673-2254 and leave a message.

Christian Neighbors - Food, Education, Emergency Financial Assistance
282 12th Street Plainwell MI 49080 (269) 685-4166
Monday: Drive-thru only - 10am-12pm and 4pm-6pm.
Tuesday: In person shopping/walk ins - 10am-12pm
Thursday: In person shopping/walk ins - 2pm-5pm
We have been providing services to the Plainwell, Otsego and Martin areas since 1983.

Community Clothes Closet – Free Clothing and More
Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd, 101 N. Walnut Street, Allegan (269) 673-2254
Open Thursdays & Fridays, 10am – 1pm A wide selection of clothing for all ages is available.

Grief Support Groups
Wings of Hope invites all to a welcoming and compassionate gathering. 1st Monday of the month – 6-7:30pm,

LASAGNA DINNER
and
SILENT AUCTION FUNDRAISER
Allegan United Methodist Church
409 Trowbridge St, Allegan
Saturday October 18, 2025 5:00pm - 7:00pm
Suggested Donation - $12
Eat in or Take out - please call 269 673 4236 for reservations

Allegan Township
Residents ONLY!
Saturday, October 18th, 2025
Free Clean-up Day
9:00 AM – 1:00 PM
at
Allegan Township Hall
3037 118th Avenue

We will accept on this day:

Sofas	Old Grills	Carpet and Padding
Chairs	Mattresses	Bushes and Branches
Tables	Box Springs	Kids Toys
Appliances	Electronics	

One pick-up or small trailer-load building materials
One load brush and branches
And any other broken, out-dated items

YES- tires (limit 8)
NO - household trash/garbage accepted
NO - shingles accepted
NO – burning barrels
NO- Household hazardous waste

Michelle Waite, Allegan Township Clerk

THE REGENT THEATRE
211 Trowbridge St., Allegan
www.alleganregent.com
269-673-2737

Friday, Oct. 17 - Thursday, Oct. 23
7pm Feature • $5 – Sat. & Sun. 2pm Matinee • $4
WEEKLY SPECIALS
Tuesdays- 25 cent Popcorn
SHOCKTOBER!
HOUSE OF 1000 CORPSES (R)| OCT 18 | 9:30PM | $5 ADMISSION

BROOMSTICK POOL TOURNAMENT!
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 25, 2025
REGISTRATION: 12:30 •PLAY STARTS: 1:00PM
$10 EACH PLAYER - draw for partners
DOUBLE ELIMINATION + SCOTCH
Cash Prizes for 1st & 2nd
(winning payouts depend on participation)
Proceeds help the post canteen!
VFW POST 3030
124 N. Farmer St., Otsego, MI

Stop cleaning-out your gutters this season
LeafFilter
EXPIRES: 11/30/2025
AN ADDITIONAL
15% OFF + 10%
LeafFilter
Discount For Seniors + Military
Get a FREE full gutter inspection and estimate: 1-866-495-1709 Promo: 285

Wings of Hope Office, 530 Linn St., Allegan; 2nd Tues. of each month – 12:30-2pm, United Methodist Church, 322 Maple St., Hopkins; 3rd Monday of each month – 3-4:30pm, Ransom District Library, 189 S. Sherwood Ave., Plainwell; 4th Tues., Grief Support Luncheon, 1pm, Salvino's 1290 M89, Plainwell.

Love, Inc.
Love in the Name of Christ 4621 135th Ave. Hamilton
For assistance with food, personal care items, baby needs, household items, clothing, appliances, furniture, bicycles, laundry, showers & Life Skills Wrap Around Care, call 269 751-2533. Visit www.loveincnwa.org., email: office@loveincnwa.org.

People Helping People of Pullman
Assistance by appt. 269 236-6295

Safe Harbor Children's Advocacy Center - Abuse Prevention and Healing
404 Sherman St., Allegan, MI 49010 www.safeharborcac.org, (269) 673-3791

St. Vincent de Paul-St. Margaret Conference - Food and More
St. Vincent de Paul 124A W. Allegan St. Otsego
Mon.: 1-3pm Tues. & Thurs: 10am to noon Wed.: 3-5pm
Food pantry and limited financial aid. Dtvincentdepaul9005@gmail.com
Serves Otsego, Plainwell and Martin School Districts

Sylvia's Place - Safe from Domestic Violence
Crisis Line: 269 673-8700

United Church of Wayland - Free Clothing
1st and 3rd Thursdays of the month, 4 - 6pm
411 E Superior St. in Wayland

Wings of Hope Hospice & Palliative Care - End of Life Care
530 Linn Street, Allegan, MI 49010, www.wingsofhopehospice.com, (269) 686-8659

FOOD

Allegan Food Pantry
Church of God, 1313 Lincoln Rd., Allegan
Monday: 10 am–1pm; Tues.: 2–7pm; Fri. 1-4pm Curbside Service
Contact: Phone: 269 686-6369
Deliveries are made to homebound senior citizens.

Christian Neighbors, SE
282 12th St. Plainwell 269 685-4166

Christian Neighbors, Wayland
122 Church St. Wayland 269 792-2870

Congregational Kitchen - Thursday Dinner Pickup
Congregational Church 325 Cutler Street Allegan
Call (269) 673-3139 after 3pm any Thursday and place an order.
Thursdays: Pick up 3 to 5:30 pm. Takeout dinners only during COVID-19

Epiphany Lutheran Church
4219 Park Land Dorr 616 681-0791

Food Truck - 3rd Friday of each month, 4:30 - 5:30pm
United Church of Wayland
411 E Superior St. in Wayland

The Hands of Grace Food Pantry
United Methodist Church, 409 Trowbridge St., Allegan 269 673-4236
Tuesday: 9-11:45 a.m.; Wednesday: 9-11:45 a.m. and 5-7 p.m.; Friday: 10-11:45 a.m.
Food Pantry serves FOOD to residents of Allegan 49010 w/valid ID with current address ONLY.

Hopkins United Methodist Church
322 Maple St. Hopkins
269 793-7340

Hungry for Christ
4565 135th Ave. Hamilton, 269 264-1307 x1000

Ladders of Hope USA - Food Assistance
717 East Main St, Fennville, MI 49408, www.laddersofhopemi.org., 269-686-6456

Martin Area Resource Center
1445 10th St, Martin (269) 672-5605
No appointment needed. Pick up by one person per household.

Martin United Methodist Church
969 E. Allegan St. Martin 269 672-7097

Mobile Food Pantry, 2nd Monday of the Month: Drive Thru Food Distribution
Casco United Methodist Church 880 66th ST, South Haven MI 49090
Pantry items a pre-packaged. Limit - one box per vehicle.

Project Hope
1808 143rd Ave. Dorr
616 681-4673 appt. only

The Vine Food Pantry / Love, INC
Christ Community Church
3370 113th Ave, Allegan, MI · (269) 673-2329

Wayland Farners Market
Apr. – Oct. Wed. & Sat.
Downtown Wayland

FUN FOR THE FAMILY
Bingo!, Wednesdays, 6pm: American Legion Hall
Senior Bingo!, Tuesdays from 1-3pm: American Legion Hall
Corner of Eastern Avenue and Hooker, Allegan

Allegan District Library, M-Th 10am-8pm, F 10am-5:30pm, Sat.10am-4pm:
Plus, Carnegie Corner Bookstore (Friend available on Tuesdays)
Allegan District Library 331 Hubbard Street, lower level Allegan (269) 673-4625

Allegan Event – Ropes Course, Walls and More
439 River Street Allegan
Twilight Special: Thurs., 4-9pm, 2hrs. for $18
Free Game Card: Fri., 4-9pm w/ $20 food purchase
Family 4-Pack: Sat., 5-9pm, 4 premier combo tickets w/pizza+ for $130
For more information call 269-430-3961 or check online at https://www.alleganevent.com

Allegan County Historical Society, Old Jail Museum.
Fridays & Saturdays, 10 am – 4 pm, (269) 673-8292. Call to confirm hours or arrange for a private tour.
Email: oldjailmuseum06@yahoo.com Webpage: www.alleganoldjail.com

Bear & Fox Yarn Den
Bear & Fox 141 Brady St. Allegan
Tues. 2-8pm; Wed.-Sat. 11am-5pm; Sun.-Mon closed
Enjoy beautiful yarns and classes or Tuesday Stitch Night.

Children's Book Box – Immanuel Lutheran Church
Lutheran Church 631 Grand Street Allegan
Children can find free books in the Book Box constructed by the Sunday School Youth. Check it out.

Iron Bridge Quilters - Thursdays, 10am-2pm
Blessed Sacrament Church 110 Cedar St. Allegan
All ages and levels of expertise are welcome. Create a piece for yourself, for a friend or for a charity. Contact Claudia at acrasmussen5@gmail.com or (269) 673-4579 for more information.

Rivertown Fitness for All Ages and Families
Rivertown Gym & Fitness, 739 Airway Dr. Allegan. Check on the Core and More class. Call Todd at 269 686-7900 or email rivertowngym@gmail.com for additional information.

Scouting: Allegan has a variety of scouting opportunities. Each group is meeting in different ways to stay safe.
Cub Scout Pack 3026: Grades K-5. Call Cub Master Ron Gunter ron.f.gunter@gmail.com
Boy Scouts BSA 91 (boys 11-17 yrs.): Contact Scout Master Rob Keen 269 568-0435, eckeen1112@gmail.com
Girls Troop BSA 191 (girls 11-17): Contact Sara Keen sarajkeen@gmail.com.

Senior Fitness/Fit Over 50: Fun fitness designed for ages 50-80plus!
Hicks Gym, 311 E Plainwell Street, Plainwell. Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays at 9am. Drop in or call Sharrin at 269-330-3204 or email at denzgirllc@att.net.

The Fairways:
237 Hubbard St. Allegan (269) 655-5890
Get assistance with accuracy, distance, course management, club selection, or distance control. Work on a simulator, and treat it like a practice session at the course to achieve overall game improvement.

Tilt 118: Ice Cream, Pinball Machines, Food and More
Tilt 118 118 Brady St. Allegan
Pinball Leagues, Pinball Classes, Arcade Rental
Contact: Email: smalltownamusements@gmail.com; Phone: 269 720-8137

THOMAS STREET
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IN ALLEGAN COUNTY

NABIL NOUNA, M.D
AMY STEWARD, N.P
JENNIFER VANCE, P.A

Internal Medicine
& Family Medicine

ACCEPTING NEW PATIENTS

Immediate Appointments are available
Established patients are seen in 1-2 days

Most insurances are accepted

For appointment call
269-673-2179
305 THOMAS STREET, ALLEGAN, MI 49010

NOTICE

OFFICE OF THE ALLEGAN COUNTY DRAIN COMMISSIONER
BATES DRAIN

NOTICE OF MEETING OF BOARD OF DETERMINATION

DATE: Wednesday, October 29, 2025
TIME: 3:00 p.m.
LOCATION: Dorr Township Hall
4196 18th Street
Dorr, MI 48323
QUESTIONS: (269) 673-0440

A petition, dated June 1, 2020, was previously filed with the Allegan County Drain Commissioner for the maintenance and improvement of the Bates Drain. As a result, a Board of Determination was held for the Bates Drain and determined the petitioned maintenance and improvement was necessary and conducive to public health, convenience, or welfare. Following the finding of necessity, the Drain Commissioner has worked with its engineers and began designing the Bates Drain project. Part of that design process has included coordination with Dorr Township. On May 22, 2025, the Township filed an additional petition requesting: (1) the consolidation of the Sink Drain with the Bates Drain, to be known as the Bates Drain; and (2) maintenance and improvement of the Bates Drain as consolidated.

As a result of the May 22, 2025, petition, a Board of Determination is required to meet, hear all interested persons, receive evidence, and determine whether the proposed consolidation of the drains known and designated as the Sink Drain and the Bates Drain, to be known as the Bates Drain, and the consolidation of the Sink Drain Drainage District and the Bates Drain Drainage District, to be known as the Bates Drain Drainage District, is conducive to public health convenience, or welfare. The Board will also determine whether the maintenance and improvement of the Bates Drain as consolidated is necessary and conducive to public health, convenience or welfare. This hearing is taking place pursuant to Chapters 8 and 19 of Public Act 40 of 1956, as amended. A map of the Bates Drain and Sink Drain drainage district boundaries can be found on the Drain Commissioner's website at: https://www.allegancounty.org/departments/drain-office/public-notices-events.

A presentation will be made to the Board of Determination outlining a brief history of the drainage districts and describing the roles, responsibilities, and decisions to be made by the Board of Determination. The presentation is to provide background for landowners and municipalities in the drainage districts and facilitate the dissemination of information and the receipt of testimony of landowners in the drainage districts. The Board of Determination will make its decisions at the end of the meeting.

Following the decision of the Board of Determination, the Drain Commissioner and the project engineer will hold a separate informational meeting to provide an update regarding the current status of the Bates Drain petition project.

Proceedings conducted at the Board of Determination will be subject to the provisions of the Michigan Open Meetings Act. Information regarding this meeting may be obtained from the Allegan County Drain Commissioner's Office located at 3283 122nd Avenue, Allegan, MI 49010. Minutes of the meeting will be on file in the Allegan County Drain Commissioner's Office.

Persons with disabilities needing accommodations for effective participation in the meeting should contact the Drain Commissioner at the number listed above or through the Michigan Relay Center at 7-1-1 (TDD) at least 24 hours in advance of the meeting to request mobility, visual, hearing, or other assistance.

Anyone aggrieved by the decision of the Board of Determination may seek judicial review pursuant to MCL 280.72a.

A time to celebrate, hostages have been released

MIKE'S MUSINGS

MIKE WILCOX
■ PUBLISHER ■

I don't care how bad your Trump Derangement Syndrome might be, you have to give the man credit for orchestrating a deal that released the 20 living Israeli hostages from the grips of Hamas on Monday.

On Monday, the world witnessed a rare, human moment amid a long, bitter conflict. Families embraced their loved ones. Streets in Tel Aviv filled with relief and quiet celebration. For two years, these hostages had been a grim reminder of a conflict defined by loss — today, diplomacy claimed a victory.

President Trump's envoys, namely Secretary of State Marco Rubio, Steve Witkopf and Jared Kusner engaged regional partners, coordinated with Israel, and pressed for terms that all sides could accept. While the details of the back-channel negotiations remain largely undisclosed, multiple outlets have confirmed that the ceasefire arrangement aligns closely with the "Gaza peace plan" Trump outlined earlier this month. The plan's first phase — the exchange of hostages for prisoners and a pause in fighting — became reality Monday.

Hostage negotiations test the limits of leadership. They demand pragmatism, patience, and the willingness to engage with adversaries without endorsing aggression. Trump's approach — combining public advocacy with behind-the-scenes diplomacy — mirrors strategies he has used in past foreign policy efforts. The remarkable element in this case is not spectacle, but outcome: coordination across rival factions and regional powers produced a tangible result. By utilizing Arab countries like Egypt and Quatar, along with Turkey, Trump's envoy was able to put enough pressure on Hamas to accept the agreement.

The humanitarian dimension cannot be overstated. For families of the hostages, relief is immediate and profound. Years of uncertainty, fear, and grief have been replaced with reunion, gratitude, and the chance to rebuild lives interrupted by violence. These human stories are often lost in the headlines, yet they remain the clearest measure of success in any diplomatic effort. Saving lives, restoring families, and providing hope are the tangible consequences of negotiation and patience.

I for one, was overcome with joy when I first heard the hostages were going to be released. That joy continued all week long as I watched the families reunite. I now pray that deceased hostages that haven't been returned will be brought to their families in short order.

That said, the achievement is fragile. Ceasefires in this region rarely last. Israel remains on guard against Hamas, and over 1,700 Palestinian prisoners were exchanged for 20 hostages — a trade that may provoke domestic criticism and complicate future negotiations. The agreement's durability depends on ongoing compliance, trust among mediators, and the ability to enforce terms in a highly volatile environment. Success in diplomacy is rarely clean or perfect; it is measured in lives saved, in the willingness to create pathways where none existed before, and in the temporary reprieve from violence that allows hope to flourish.

It is also worth remembering that this outcome reflects the efforts of many actors: Israeli negotiators, Arab intermediaries, humanitarian organizations, and yes, the Trump team. The story of Monday's release is less about credit and more about the power of sustained dialogue in a conflict too often defined by confrontation. Leadership, in this case, was less about headlines and more about the patient work required to bring parties to the table and convince them that compromise, however imperfect, could save lives.

That's not easy to do. Hamas has held these hostages for over 2 years, thinking they would be the ultimate bargaining chip to remain in control of Gaza. They final relinquished when Trump's deal forced Israel to return 1700 Palestinian prisoners in exchange for the hostages.

You could say this is a victory for everyone. Now phase 2 of Trump's peace plan demands Hamas give up control of Gaza. Will see if this happens, but in the meantime we should all celebrate the region is enjoying peace for the first time in a long time.

Life as Performance Art

G CORWIN STOPPEL

I put on a DVD of George Clooney's film "Good Night and Good Luck" the other evening. Although 20 years old, it is just as relevant, if not more so, today.

It''s the story of U.S. news reporter (radio, journalism and television), Edward R Murrow, who became world famous during World War II when he ran the European bureau for CBS, sometimes broadcasting from the stairs of London's St. Martin in the Field Church as the Germans were bombing the city.

After the war, he moved to television and set the standard for reporting. The film is named after his sign-off line.

Murrow was excellent and trusted, but not always revered by his CBS employers because he dared to challenge those, especially in politics, who wanted to stifle free speech.

This was the era of Sen. Joseph McCarthy who tried to make a name for himself by viciously attacking anyone who had liberal ideas or had leanings that made them "a threat to the United States." Morrow and other reporters were in his sights.

Among his targets were civil servants working in the State Department and all other government agencies, writers and all the professionals in Hollywood, from A-list actors down to the technicians.

The public interrogation began, "Are you now or have you ever been a member of the Communist Party." Some of the witnesses admitted they had been in the past but renounced their ideology; others said they had never joined and some refused to answer. A lot of careers were ruined.

Once people realized that McCarthy and his ilk threatened their First Amendment rights, some of Hollywood 's best-known actors reacted. Henry Fonda, Humphrey Bogart and wife Lauren Bacall, Lucille Ball and others organized the Committee for the First Amendment. The battle between sides was engaged.

Murrow wanted to do an exposé on McCarthy, his tactics, and harm he was causing so many people. CBS executives stopped him because they were afraid of McCarthy and how they might lose their broadcasting license.

Eventually, Murrow prevailed, presented his exposé on the senator and there were sharp reactions from both liberals and conservatives.

Eventually McCarthy was censored by the Senate and went home to Wisconsin, where he soon died in disgrace. Murrow, the major TV networks and the right to continue exercising free speech prevailed.

This is a constant struggle on many fronts. All religions, including Christianity, have a set of beliefs. Those who subscribe to them are considered orthodox; those who do not are labeled heretics.

The same is true for scientists and, of course, in politics. Being a heretic can have serious repercussions. It is true of performing and visual arts as well.

When it comes to politics and the First Amendment, few things are more important yet divisive. In our country, it has split friends and family from the American Revolution through the Civil War, Reconstruction and on till now.

Some of us may not be joining family members this year for the holidays because of different views, and that's just the way it is, as disappointing and miserable as it will be for those excluded.

There has been chatter about the U.S. becoming like Germany or Italy under dictators in the 1920s and' 30s. We overlook the comparisons between now and the early 1950s. To do that is a mistake. None of us wants to be told by anyone what we may or may not read, the news we follow or anything else.

More important, we do not want to live in fear of those who accuse us of being a heretic. My sixth-grade teacher Mrs. Wilson had stacks of anti-Red pamphlets on a counter. We were to take them home, read them and could get extra credit for doing so.

On Mondays, she asked if our parents had read the pamphlets. They were provided by the far-right John Birch Society who were trying to outlaw chlorine in our water.

The extra credit was a bright shiny sticky star. Mine was red, although at the time I didn't see the irony in earning a red star for reading anti-communist propaganda.

I think Mrs. Wilson lived in fear of the JBS, PTA and other self-appointed watchdogs over our morals and politics. Like the made-up characters in the pamphlets, she was worried that a student might say something bad about her to their parents, or a parent might snitch on her to one of the local groups.

All of which explains why Henry Fonda's daughter Jane and many more Hollywood actors and directors, journalists and others have joined the relaunching of the Committee for the First Amendment.

Members of the Continental Congress and] delegates to the Constitutional Convention were never a bunch of well-behaved choir boys waiting to have tea with a bishop. Almost every administration has had its own opponents. Every public policy decision was popular among some and opposed by others.

First Amendment rights came until attack from 1917 to 1920 during the Red Scare when Attorney General Mitchell Palmer tried to deprive anyone who did not agree with him of their rights. The second Red Scare came under the auspices of McCarthy and an assortment of organizations. Some believe it happened again when there was a push against those who disagreed with the government's Covid-19 mandates.

And once this episode comes to an end, assuming we haven't tossed away our democracy, it will happen again sometime in the future. It is a ceaseless but important battle to win if we are going to keep our form of government.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

OPS pulls books, outs queer child

Dear Editor:

Hello. I am writing to you as a concerned Otsego resident. In the past month Otsego public schools has taken actions that threaten the safety of students attending OPS.

Pulling books from classrooms like "Penguins" and "In My Mosque" shows clear discrimination against gay and Muslim community members. In the same discriminatory vein, the school outed a queer child using private information that should not have been shared the way it was, causing extreme harm to not only the child and family directly affected but also affecting the safety of all students in the school. If a teacher can get away with breaking the law and sharing confidential information about a child because of their own personal biases then no child at OPS is safe.

I would like to call on you as a beacon of our community to speak out against this Injustice and discrimination. Thank you.

Hannah Reed

DOJ a waste of money?

Editor,

A while back while in Switzerland on business Trump was given a tour of the capital.

While visiting the various monuments and historic sites they came upon a towering glass covered office building.

"And this", said the guide proudly, "is our Ministry of the Navy!"

"All of this for the navy of a landlocked country with only two ships?" Trump asked.

"This seems like a colossal useless waste of money for something that does nothing!"

"Well", the guide replied, " America has a Department of Justice."

David Ohmart

Resident concerned about 5G cell towers

Dear Editor:

Concerned resident of *(Cheshire Township*) is concerned about the Big 5G Cell Towers being deployed in our community. These powerful antennas, part of the next generation of wireless technology (5G), are being placed in close proximity to our homes, schools and other places where we engage in the activities of our daily lives, even though there is no science that assures their safety. ***This is an undeniable risk.***

The FCC's human exposure guidelines for the radio frequency (RF) microwave radiation used for this technology are decades out of date and the agency has dismissed the results of decade-long research on RF microwave radiation and human health completed last year by the National Toxicology Program that showed "clear evidence of carcinogenicity."

Because the health and safety of our families is at stake, we need to inform the community and Allegan County for the future of the Children.

Demand a moratorium on further deployment of 5G until it can be proven safe.

If you're a individuals concerned about your health, privacy, security and home values can learn more by visiting (*https://www.stop5g.org/*) and Inform the county community of the health risk of 24/7 microwave exposure, in Ottawa county there is a group to stop towers near schools here in Allegan we are all quiet and putting the children in Danger who will protect them if the adults don't do it…say good bye to hunting, fishing, they will all die and yes the little ones brain cancer will rise, we better wake up 5 G towers will be every ware in our county, as of now they have plans one near swan lake and one in the process on 109th and 44th see they have to be close before you know it they will have them in every neighborhood when you're out in the woods all you're going to see are these Towers blasting microwaves at everything. if we don't speak up were all doomed,

5G frequencies (60 GHz) alter the orbital spin in oxygen molecules. Respiration and all bodily functions will be negatively affected.

They are blatantly trying to kill us. They're not even trying to hide it.

5G is a kill grid. This is the most serious bio-spiritual attack they could have ever conjured up and we had better get wise to it and deal with it pronto.

source from Joe Imbriano warned us in 2018-60GHz blocks Oxygen

Thank you.
Donna
Concern resident of Cheshire Township

Support road millage in Hopkins Twp

To Mike the Editor,

While driving on the secondary roads in Hopkins Township dust billows behind the vehicle. Dust enters our homes, creates health concerns for some residents, settles on outdoor furniture and equipment, and covers everything. This dust is the binder that holds our gravel roads together. When the dust billows, the roads deteriorate. Driving our hard surface roads is better but all roads, both gravel and hard surface, need maintenance and improvement at some point in time.

The citizens of Hopkins Township petitioned the Township Board to develop and implement a plan to maintain and improve township roads for the benefit and welfare of Hopkins Township residents. As a result of that petitioning, a one mill tax proposal appears on the November election ballot.

I urge approval of this proposal to allow the Township Board to develop and implement a plan to improve our roads to benefit the health and welfare of all township residents and those that travel through our township. Thank You.

Robert G. Beck

The Allegan COUNTY NEWS

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P.O. Box 189, 241 Hubbard St.
Allegan, MI 49010-0189 (269) 673-5534
e-mail: Wilcoxnewspapers@gmail.com Web site: www.wilcoxnewspapers.com

Published weekly by The Allegan County News. R. Michael Wilcox publisher. Subscriptions: $55 per year in county; $55 per year in Michigan; $70 out of state; Foreign rates upon request. Periodicals postage paid at Allegan, MI 49010. Postal Publication No. 013-700. Postmaster: Send address corrections to The Allegan County News, P.O. Box 189, Allegan, MI 49010-0189.

Otsego & Plainwell UNION ENTERPRISE

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e-mail: Wilcoxnewspapers@gmail.com Web site: www.wilcoxnewspapers.com

Published weekly by The Union Enterprise. R. Michael Wilcox publisher. Subscriptions: $55 per year in Allegan County. $55 in Michigan; $70 out of state. Periodicals postage paid at Allegan, MI 49010 and at additional mailing office Postal Publication No. 413600. Postmaster: Send address corrections to Union Enterprise, P.O. Box 189, 241 Hubbard St., Allegan MI 49010

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ADVERTISING DEADLINES
4 P.M. Monday

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Obituaries

Sally Beckers, 89

Sally Beckers, a faithful servant of God, has reached her final destination—resting peacefully in the arms of her Savior, Jesus Christ. Her beautiful spirit has returned to the God who so lovingly gave it.

Born on September 23, 1936, Sally was the cherished daughter of the late Carl and Catherine Wilkes. After the passing of her father when she was just seven, she was later blessed with another loving father, the late John Maher, whom she adored deeply. She was also preceded in death by her beloved husband Jack, her son Chris, and eight of her siblings.

Sally leaves behind a family that was the joy of her life. She is survived by her children: Kelly Beckers (Roberta), Julie Sosnowski (Bob), Jackie Goforth (Bill), and Kitty Rauschert (Ken); 11 precious grandchildren, 24 great-grandchildren, 2 great-great-grandchildren, and countless nieces and nephews.

A 1954 graduate of Allegan High School, Sally was a vibrant and involved student, majorette, club member, "Most Popular," "Best Personality," and Homecoming Queen. She was Allegan's own "American Sweetheart." Even decades later, she stayed connected with her classmates, organizing reunions and gatherings, treasuring those lifelong friendships.

After attending Davenport College and working briefly as a secretary, Sally met the dashing Jack Beckers—who, as family lore goes, happened to drive a red convertible. They married on April 23, 1955, beginning a life of love, laughter, and legacy. Their first home was a tiny trailer, but it wasn't long before Jack built

Sally Beckers

their beloved home on Dumont Lake. Sally often said those early years, surrounded by young children, were the happiest days of her life.

Sally had a special way of showing love—especially through her cooking. Her meals were unforgettable, and her Blue Ribbon-winning pies were legendary. Every Christmas, the Beckers' tree was decked out with edible decorations handmade by Sally—cookies for the kids to decorate, popcorn and cranberries strung with care. Her kitchen was a place of warmth, laughter, and delicious memories.

She was affectionately known by many names: Sal, Poopsie, and "Lucky Sal"—a nickname earned after a $300K scratch-off lottery win. She loved to gamble, but she also had a competitive streak in sports. Sally was a proud member of the Holy Rollers Bowling Team (where, as she joked, she learned to swear) and played doubles tennis with a fierce serve that challenged even the best.

Sally had many gifts, but perhaps her greatest was making everyone feel at home. Whether on Dumont Lake, in Rochester, or at Grandview Drive, she welcomed all with open arms, a listening ear, and something delicious on the table. Her home wasn't just a house—it was a haven. A place of comfort, joy, and refuge, not only for her children but for anyone who needed it. And when love required it, she gave swift, honest advice—or the occasional well-placed kick—all with compassion.

She was generous to a fault, always willing to give what she had, often from her stash of cold- hard cash taped inside a bacon package in the freezer. Her acts of kindness, large and small, reflected a heart full of grace.

Sally was the All-American mom that everyone wished they had. She loved deeply, believed in the good in people, and kept God at the center of her life. Her family was her world, and she gave of herself freely and joyfully. She leaves behind a legacy of faith, love, and unwavering kindness—a life beautifully lived, a soul now at peace.

The family will receive friends at Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church on Friday, October 17, 2025 from 10:00 AM to 10:40 AM at which time a Rosary Service will begin followed by Mass of Christian Burial at 11:00 AM. Sally will be laid to rest in Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church Cemetery immediately following the mass. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to Wings of Hope Hospice, 530 Linn Street, Allegan, MI 49010; or Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church Good Samaritans, 110 N. Cedar Street, Allegan, MI 49010. Gorden Funeral Residence, Allegan Chapel, is assisting the family with arrangements.

Donald Jorgensen, 80

Donald Jorgensen passed away at his home surrounded by his family on Saturday, October 11, 2025. Don was born April 10th, 1945 in Allegan, son of the late Andrew and Naomi (Smith) Jorgensen and lived in the Allegan area his entire life. Don farmed his family's bi-centennial farm and was very proud of its legacy. In the early years, Don milked cows, did chores, then went to school. Through the years, Don raised dairy, beef, and pigs until his retirement in 2013. Don worked for Waanders Concrete for most of his career. He also served as the Cheshire Township Supervisor, was a licensed contractor, and on the side, he dug ponds, cleared land and did anything concrete related. His "happy toys"

Donald Jorgensen

included his drag line, excavator, and bull dozer.

Surviving are his daughters, Sonia (Mike) Anoskey, Nannette (Robert) Lawrence, Chantel (Shayne Miley) Freeman, Tanya (Robert Bushart) Moore; grandchildren, Jacob, Heather, Gavin, Riley, Chandler, Trevor, Brandon, Courtney, Allison (Tyler), Zachary, Megan; 2 Sisters in Law, Nancy Jorgensen and Kristine Opas; a brother in law, Jake "Butch" Mowrey; and his loving furry companion, Tip.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Yvonne "Suki" whom he married September 8, 1967, a brother, Ronald Jorgensen and his sister, Margaret McCormick.

Following his wishes, cremation has taken place. A celebration of Don's life will take place on Sunday, October 19th from 12:30 - 3:30pm at the Hartman Center in Allegan. Arrangements entrusted to the Bloomingdale Chapel, D. L. Miller Funeral Home, www.dlmillerfuneralhome.com.

Larry Wilbur Raab, 86

Larry Wilbur Raab passed on October 7, 2025, at Beacon (Borgess) Medical Center in Kalamazoo. He was born in Allegan, MI to his late parents Wilbur W. Raab and Arla B. (Clawson) Truax, on September 5, 1939.

Larry attended Wayland High School, where he was active in both baseball and track & field. He also worked as a pin setter at the local bowling alley. Following graduation, Larry proudly served his country during the Vietnam conflict as a tank mechanic in the U.S. Army. After his military service, he worked as a mechanic at the Hunter Shell full-service station in Allegan, eventually becoming the owner. For 38 years, he served the Allegan community until his retirement. During that time, he met Judith (Irons) Raab and together shared 35 years of faithful marriage. Outside of work, he loved golfing local courses, bowling in leagues, and watching the Detroit Tigers. He was an accomplished man, with a

Larry Wilbur Raab

strong work ethic and kept himself busy with projects at home.

He is survived by his wife Judith (Irons) Raab; children Victory (Paul) Knuckles, and Jewell Raab; step-children David (Tara) Wheeler, Kevin (Katie Melvin) Wheeler, and Amy (Scott) Meert; grandchildren Elijah (Melissa) Knuckles, Elicia (Eric) Essenburg, Nathan (Jasmin) Knuckles, Frankie (Hosley Werner) Knuckles, Rose (Connor Scane) Bazan, Alexandria Bazan, Jennifer (Logan Ripsam) Wheeler, Autumn Wheeler, Christianna Trutsch, Alyssa Trutsch, Kami Davidson, Kendra Wheeler, Abby Wheeler, and Jeb Meert, along with numerous great-grandchildren.

He is preceded in death by his parents and brother, Richard Raab.

Larry's Memorial service will start at 11:00 AM with an hour's visitation beforehand on Monday, October 20th, at Gorden Funeral Residence, Allegan Chapel 528 Trowbridge Street, Allegan, MI 49010. Inurnment with military honors at 2:30 PM to follow at Fort Custer National Cemetery 15501 Dickman Road, Augusta, MI 49012. No funeral procession from funeral home to Fort Custer.

In lieu of flowers, donations made to either Operation Homefront 17319 San Pedro Avenue, San Antonio, TX 78232, or Fisher House Foundation 12300 Twinbrook Parkway Suite 410, Rockville, MD 20852.

Raymond Clarke Webb Jr. 77

Raymond Clarke Webb Jr. 77 of Allegan, MI, passed unexpectedly on October 4th, 2025. He leaves behind his wife Barb (Warstler) Webb of 59 years, daughter Barbara Lynn from New Mexico, several brothers, sisters, nieces, and nephews. Ray was born March 28th, 1948, to his late parents Raymond and Wilma (Dutton) Webb. He proudly served in the Army from August 1965 to September 1968.

Raymond Webb Jr.

He retired from General Motors in 2008 after 25 years. A Harley motorcycle man at heart and loved woodworking too. He had 9 grandkids, 8 great-grandkids, 3 great-great grandkids. He cherished his family more than life itself. He is preceded in death by his parents, daughters Lisa and Angela and siblings Linda Sue and Ken.

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West Michigan manufacturers host student tours

By Gari Voss

According to the National Association of Manufacturers, Michigan employs approximately 595,800 people in over 12,000 manufacturing companies, with manufacturing accounting for $115.2 billion in economic value. This is roughly 16.3% of the state's GDP. The data has led to conversations between educators and business leaders. These conversations have metamorphosized into the development of numerous activities related to career education.

In West Michigan, to enrich the pool of young people entering the manufacturing workforce, more than 90 manufacturers across Allegan, Barry, Kent, Muskegon and Ottawa counties have currently volunteered to host student tours during the fall of 2025.

The initiative is led by Discover Manufacturing, an industry talent council of West Michigan Works! The initiative aims to inspire the next generation of professionals in advanced manufacturing. The tours run from October 13 through November 25 and provide middle and high school students with firsthand exposure to local career opportunities, advanced manufacturing environments, and the people who make the region's economy run.

Educators can register their classroom for a Discover Manufacturing Week tour by contacting Adam Russo at adam@com616.com.

New for 2025, the West Michigan Works! Agribusiness Talent Council is joining this year's effort to highlight the importance of food manufacturers during student tours. The food and agriculture system accounts for about 17% of Michigan's total employment, with more than 31,500 agribusiness jobs in West Michigan.

Now in its 11th year, Discover Manufacturing Week continues to grow. Discover Manufacturing Week aligns with National Manufacturing Week, held nationally from September 29 through October 3, 2025, by highlighting the growing demand for a skilled workforce in fields such as robotics, machining, engineering, and supply chain management. The initiative also aims to bust myths about the industry and showcase clean, high-tech environments, engaged employees, and real-world examples of creativity and problem-solving.

Middle and High School students across Allegan, Barry, Kent, Muskegon and Ottawa counties can tour some of 90 manufacturing plants that are involved in Discover Manufacturing, an industry talent council of West Michigan Works! This year the stops will focus on the food and agricultural industries. Photo: courtesy of MI Works!

"Discover Manufacturing Week continues to grow because it is effective," said Ryan Graham, Community and Parent Liaison, Kent Career Tech Center and Discover Manufacturing council member. "The experiences are critical. When students step inside an advanced manufacturing facility and talk to real employees, they begin to see career possibilities they didn't know existed. It bridges the gap between classroom learning and the real world."

According to the National Association of Manufacturers, Michigan employs approximately 595,800 people in over 12,000 manufacturing companies, with manufacturing accounting for $115.2 billion in economic value, which is roughly 16.3% of the state's GDP. Employers across Allegan, Barry, Kent, Muskegon and Ottawa counties are currently signed up to participate.

That impact is echoed by educators who see firsthand how these experiences reshape students' perceptions and open their eyes to new possibilities. All surveyed educators reported being satisfied with their tour.

"The various stations and continual movement kept them engaged," said Emily Herro, teacher, Grandville Middle School. "At each station, students participated in hands-on activities and saw real people at work. We even had a few students say they want to work there in the future and asked about next steps."

With nearly 51,200 average annual openings expected and key manufacturing occupations projected to grow by more than six percent by 2030, the demand for skilled talent remains high. These on-the-job tours can impact the fate of manufacturing exponentially and are open to all Allegan County Middle and High Schools..

Ganges Township to host ribbon-cutting ceremony for Pier Cove Park

Ganges Township is thrilled to announce the ribbon-cutting ceremony for the newly enhanced Pier Cove Park, located on Lakeshore Drive in Fennville. The event will take place on November 1, 2025, at 1 PM, and all members of the community are invited to join in the celebration. The ribbon-cutting ceremony will mark the completion of recent improvements to Pier Cove Park.

Join the Pier Cove Park Committee and its devoted volunteers in celebrating a cherished local destination made possible by grants from the Michigan Department of Natural Resources, the Allegan County Community Foundation, Fennville Community Recreation, a donation from the Lake Michigan Shore Association, and the many other donors contributing to its success.

Known for its natural beauty and access to Lake Michigan, the park's updates aim to enhance accessibility and ensure it remains a welcoming space for residents and visitors alike to enjoy for generations to come. Attendees will have the opportunity to explore the updated park and learn more about the enhancements made as part of this project. Light refreshments will be served, and local officials will be on hand to share remarks during the ceremony. The public has been notified of the event through the Allegan County News and the Township's official website, gangestownship.org.

Event Details: • What: Ribbon-Cutting Ceremony for Pier Cove Park • When: Saturday, November 1, 2025, at 1 PM • Where: Pier Cove Park, Lakeshore Drive, Fennville, MI 49408 For additional information about the event or the park improvements, please visit gangestownship.org or contact the Ganges Township Supervisor.

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The City of Allegan would like to identify any abandoned, unplugged wells in and around its wellhead protection zone and explore having them plugged. The zone extends east from the city of Allegan along the north side of M-222 east to 24th St.

If you are the owner of the abandoned, unplugged well and would like assistance in plugging the well. Please contact Allegan Water Utilities at 269-686-1117 or by emailing to Doug Sweeris at dsweeris@cityofallegan.org

Mystery takes center stage at five live theatre productions

By Gari Voss

The theater offerings continue with Jeff Daniel's Escanaba in da Moonlight October 17 & 18, 2025, 7pm at the Griswold Auditorium. Parker Johnson, Jessie Dye, David Hodge, Paul Hodge, and Christopher Hodge, with a guest appearance by Melissa Hodge, relate the store of a hunting camp gone wrong. Photo: G. Voss

The month of October seems to draw out the talents of many an actor and actress while focusing on the mysterious and supernatural. For those thespians and lovers of live theater, it is time to mark calendars and order tickets.

Escanaba in da Moonlight – Oct. 17 & 18, 7pm

The second and final weekend of this play by Jeff Daniels, who is quite familiar with the escapades of hunters in the Upper Peninsula, will take the Griswold Auditorium stage on Friday, October 17th and Saturday, October 18th at 7pm. The cast of characters love performing this adventure of the Soady men and their long-time friend Jimmer as they attempt to move Reuben out of his never a deer to be shot doldrum. A bit of the paranormal ensues and all laughter breaks out. Tickets can be purchased online or at the door, and proceeds go to the Lions Club.

Bad Auditions by Bad Actors and Disaster – Oct. 24th & 25th

The Wayland High School Theater group will present two shorts. First, Bad Auditions by Bad Actors, a short comedy by Ian McWethy and The One-Act Play, Disaster a short comedy by Don Zolidis. Tickets online at wulactickets.ludus.com or at the door.

Murder in Sin City – Oct. 25, 6pm

Saturday, October 25, 2025, at 6pm, guests and actors will gather at Fenn Valley Vineyards in Fennville for a delightful evening of mystery and mayhem. Beautify Pullman will present Murder in Sin City. Those in attendance will enjoy an evening in Las Vegas with Elvis (aka Ron Short) and partake in not only a murder mystery but food & drink, raffles & prizes. Some gambling will be enjoyed at the Blackjack, Poker, Money Wheel and Roulette tables while guests try to solve the mystery of who-dun it. Tickets can be purchased at www.beautifypullman.org with proceeds going toward creating safe routes to school and other initiatives.

Night at the Museum – Nov. 6th

A twist on the theater with an Allegan County Community Foundation 60th Year Celebration at the Griswold in Allegan on Thursday, Nov. 6, 2025. The invitation invites all to arrive at 6pm to sip, mingle, and explore the exhibits and treasures from ACCF's past. Dinner among the exhibits begins at 7pm with a look to the future at 8pm. RSVPs must be received by October 29th. Not only will secrets from Allegan County's past be revealed, but the hint is to keep an eye out for the Scavenger Hunt. Rob Marciniak will receive the 2025 Nexus Award. The Wine Pull is sponsored by St. Julian.

Murder at the County Fair – Nov. 7th & 8th

The Educational Foundation for Allegan Public Schools will hold their annual Murder Mystery at the Griswold Auditorium on Friday, November 7th and Saturday, November 8th. The playbook is by Brookhouse Scripts and will feature a host of questionable cast members. Tickets are $40 per person and can be purchased using the info on Foundation's Facebook at https://www.facebook.com/AlleganEdFoundation or email edfoundationofAPS@alleganps.org. Proceeds will benefit teacher mini-grants and senior scholarships. At this time, the Foundation is requesting sponsors who will buy program ads for $50 = business card size, $75 = half page, and $100 for a full page. Ads must be purchased by October 18th and assistance can be found at kristenlorenz@alleganps.org. Payments can be made by card or check payable to Ed.Foundation of APS and sent to Attn: DJ Bentley, Ed. Foundation at 550 Fifth Street, Allegan, MI 49010.

Allegan County school psychologist wins Michigan Lottery Excellence in Education award

Hopkins Public Schools school psychologist Becca Drozd is being honored by the Michigan Lottery with an Excellence in Education award.

The Michigan Lottery established the Excellence in Education awards in 2014, recognizing outstanding educators in public schools statewide.

The Allegan County school psychologist received a $2,000 cash prize and is among the weekly award winners who will be eligible for the Michigan Lottery's Educator of the Year award, which comes with a $10,000 cash prize.

She says she has "always been drawn to working with kids and am passionate about helping them feel loved and confident."

Drozd adds working in education gives her the chance to foster and support children and work with families and the community.

Drozd was nominated for the award by the district's special education director.

She earned a bachelor's degree from Hope College and a master's degree from the University of Detroit Mercy, and has been an educator for nine years, the last six in her current position.

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Local author publishes "Boneyard Blues"

By Larry B. Massey

So, there I lay, flat on my back, in the middle of a South Vietnamese cemetery, the night as black as the inside of a coffin, and I could feel something moving in the earth beneath me. Then it began a rhythmic wheezing as if something or someone, nearly out of breath, was trying to escape a buried plight. I patted the trusty M-16 bedded with me, then wondered how well it might protect me from the supernatural.

Growing up, I had developed a love/hate relationship with cemeteries. On bright summer days, I enjoyed walking through the park-like places, reading inscriptions and pondering the lives of those who lay below. But at night, having seen many horror movies set among the tombs, I would never have thought of entering a graveyard. Even walking in the daytime by the country cemetery near our home, I picked up the pace, feeling the spine-chilling sense that something bad was gaining on me from behind.

As I lay there in that Asian burial ground, big-eyed in fright, I thought of the events that had brought me to this terrifying ordeal, half a world away from my Michigan home. After graduating from high school in 1964, being the oldest of seven siblings in a working class family with a partially disabled father, college did not seem an option. Nor did I relish the thought of launching a dead-end, mind-numbing career in a local factory.

Having been a tough middle linebacker on the gridiron, a wrestler and shot putter, I thirsted for more physical adventures. A chat with a congenial Army recruiter convinced me that becoming a paratrooper was just what I needed. That September, I enlisted in the U.S. Army at the age of 17.

After basic training, a series of advanced occupational schools, a leadership course, jump school, and a 22 day voyage across the Pacific Ocean on a troop ship, I found myself stationed with the 173rd Airborne Brigade, the first regular Army unit to serve in Vietnam.

Soon after arriving at our camp near Bien Hoa, I bonded with a fellow PFC, an African-American kid from Kalamazoo. He was jovial, always laughing at any unpleasant duty that fell our way, ranging from peeling potatoes with a jack knife on K.P., to burning latrine pits amid noisome black fumes.

During the late summer of 1965, our unit launched a mission against a Viet Cong stronghold north of Saigon. When we arrived in the field, our sergeant growled at me and my buddy, "Pitch your hooch over there!"

Over there, as he pointed, lay a cemetery, acres of ordinary looking tombstones interspersed with masonry crypts the size of jeeps and shaped like beds with headboards, footboards and humped in the middle. I also noticed that, inexplicably, in contrast to the surrounding lush tropical growth, bordering the graveyard and within stood big leafless deciduous trees, their naked branches like great skeletal hands reaching for the sky. The other vegetation on the ground of the place also looked just as brown and dead.

My buddy took one look at the boneyard where we were to sleep and burst out laughing, and I did too. Our sergeant, a New Englander, who never cracked a smile, roared, "You goons think this war's funny? We'll see how funny you think the guard duty is that you'll be pulling all night!"

We pitched our "shelter halves" in the shade of one of the bed-shaped monuments. About midnight, I had just been relieved from one of my guard duty shifts and laid down when the eerie stuff beneath me began. Needless to say, I got little sleep throughout that long dark night. At dawn, I decided to find out what lay below, one way or another. I moved our tent and began digging with my entrenching tool. At about a foot and a half deep, I reached the source of the moaning - a nest of winged ants or termites fanning their wings to maintain the temperature of the breeding hive, I suspected. Quickly, I refilled the hole,

I slept like a baby that night.

About four decades later, the final chapter of this cemetery chronicle began when my V.A. doctor pronounced my diagnosis - peripheral neuropathy - likely linked to the Agent Orange defoliant that, for some reason unknown to me, had been slathered over the cemetery and thereby planting a medical time bomb in my young body.

So, I'll end this story with a moral:

The things you fear are not necessarily the things that can hurt you.

Note: Larry Massey is a published author whose books have highlighted the history of Michigan. After his time in the Armed Forces, Larry met his wife Pricilla, and they eventually settled in the Allegan Game Forest. His short stories have received accolades from the National Veteran's Creative Arts Contest.

Otsego man pleads guilty to arson in playground fire

37-year-old Michael Kilbourn of Otsego has pled guilty to third-degree arson for a fire that destroyed a playground structure in Otsego last month.

Kilbourn faces up to 10 years in prison.

The judge agreed to drop the charges of contributing to the deliquency of a minor and fourth offense habitual offender for the guilty plea.

Kilbourn convinced his nephew to stuff clothing into the playground structure and then light them on fire.

The juvenile admitted he started the fire with his uncle and is charged with third-degree arson as well. He added he did it because he was scared of his uncle.

Kilbourn will be sentenced for the Northside Park fire on October 27.

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Advocacy Bootcamp prepares participants to advocate effectively

By Gari Voss

The Allegan County Community Foundation is partnering with the Michigan League for Public Policy (MLPP) to bring an Advocacy Bootcamp to Allegan County on Thursday, November 20, 2025, 9am-4pm. This engaging, hands-on workshop will give attendees the tools, strategies, and confidence to advocate effectively for the issues that matter most to an organization.

No matter if an organization is just beginning or wanting to strengthen their support base, the Advocacy Bootcamp can move an individual or team through the fundamentals of advocacy and assist in putting the skills and techniques into practice.

The workshop will be held at the Allegan High School Conference Center, 550 Fifth St., Allegan, MI. Space is limited, so interested parties must submit an application found on the alleganfoundation.org/community-calendar page by Friday, October 17, 2025. An application does not guarantee a spot but will begin the review process. Priority will be given to individuals who actively participate in a CHIP workgroup.

All accepted participants will be notified via email. The cost of attending is $25, which includes the full-day training, a T-shirt, lunch, and advocacy materials.

Advocacy can be the lifeline of any non-profit. The League (MLLC) has been working since 1912 to address issues by using data to educate, advocate and fight for policy solutions that undo historic and systemic racial and economic inequities in order to lift up Michiganders who have been left out of prosperity.

MLLC shared, "Our commitment to the people of Michigan is unwavering, and throughout the years we've evolved and strengthened that commitment by targeting issues like racial equity, healthcare, housing, education, childcare and more. We're also the home of Kids Count in Michigan and collaborate with organizations around the state that are doing work to improve outcomes for all."

Advocacy Bootcamp in Michigan refers to various training programs that teach people how to advocate for a specific cause. They include workshops for librarians on storytelling and securing funding, programs for grassroots activists on navigating public policy, and intensive trainings for high school and college students.

Other bootcamps may focus on specific professions, like Elder Advocacy and Law Boot Camp for elder care professionals. While there are different versions, the common goal is to provide tools, skills, and connections to effectively advocate for a particular issue or community.

In Allegan, organizations such as Safe Harbor Children's Advocacy Center and the Arc of Allegan County work diligently to strengthen their advocacy skills. Safe Harbor provides abuse prevention training, education and other resources to protect the rights of children. The Arc advocates for the inclusion and dignity of all people who have intellectual and developmental disabilities.

Community Action of Allegan County (CAAC) encourages individuals and groups to get involved by serving, advocating, and engaging individuals, families, and communities to overcome the effects of poverty and improve self-esteem.

The MLLC Bootcamps provide the foundation that many non-profit organizations require to move forward in their missions and goals. For questions, contact MACC@alleganfoundation.org.

Allegan Area ESA Transportation staff honored with state awards

The Michigan Association for Pupil Transportation (MAPT) recently recognized two members of the Allegan Area ESA's transportation team for their outstanding service and dedication to student safety. The announcement and awards were presented during a department meeting at the Allegan Area ESA Transportation building.

The annual MAPT awards honor five individuals across the state who exemplify excellence in school transportation. Nominations were submitted by transportation supervisors in May, highlighting those who go above and beyond to ensure safety, comfort, and well-being of students. Former Allegan Area ESA Transportation Supervisor Kadin Haddock submitted multiple drivers and attendants for the honor, and two were selected for their care and commitment to students and their safety.

2025 Bus Attendant of the Year – Carol Rambo is known for her compassion, dependability, and unwavering commitment to student well-being. Her role is especially vital in supporting students with special needs, and she approaches each day with care, empathy, and professionalism.

Rambo consistently goes above and beyond, ensuring the bus environment is safe and organized, offering encouragement to students, and assisting colleagues whenever needed. Her positive spirit and dedication make a meaningful difference in the lives of the students and families she serves.

2025 Bus Driver of the Year – Chelsy Millner, an incredible asset to the Allegan Area ESA team, demonstrating a deep sense of responsibility and care for the students she transports. Her dedication extends beyond simply getting students from one place to another. She creates a welcoming, safe, and positive environment on every route.

Millner's patience, attentiveness, and compassion help students feel comfortable and valued, whether she's greeting them with a warm smile or offering reassurance to ease their nerves.

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Plainwell High School marching band earns first-place honors at Sparta Invitational

By Jason Wesseldyk
Sports Editor

Given the fact that Streidl Field was under construction throughout the summer and into September, the Plainwell High School marching band had to improvise when it came to rehearsing.

The situation, in the words of PHS band director David Hepinstall, was less than ideal.

"We have bounced around rehearsal spaces from a parking lot over the summer to a grass field where we have had to paint hashes and inserts ourselves to learn on," Hepinstall said. "Our parents and band staff have been buying and donating exorbitant amounts of spray paint to keep the grass field updated. We also got a bunch of extension cords donated because there was no power source to the grass field just so that our electronics could function in those spaces as well."

Despite those challenges, the PHS marching band has continued to excel, as evidenced by its first-place finish at the Sparta Invitational on Saturday, Oct. 11.

In addition to earning the highest score so far in the state in Flight IV, the band also earned awards for Best Visual, Best General Effect and Best Color Guard.

"I am immensely proud of their work ethic this season," Hepinstall said of the band members. "The students prepare for rehearsals really well. We still have things to clean up and polish. But to be scoring this well while still knowing we can grow and improve is very exciting."

The PHS marching band competed at the Sparta Invitational. (Photo provided)

And while he's proud of the performance of the band as a whole, Hepinstall is equally proud of the growth he has seen from each individual member of the band.

"This activity requires each member to understand and execute their music, count structures, choreography and characterizations," Hepinstall said. "The students are showcasing immense confidence at performances, and it is well earned."

In addition to winning the event, Plainwell also enjoyed another milestone at Sparta: scoring higher than Spring Lake for the first time since joining the Michigan Competing Band Association in 2022.

"I've been very impressed with Spring Lake's band this season again," Hepinstall said. "They perform really well. Having a panel of judges see them at their best and us at our best and decide we executed better means a lot to us. We expect that this is an indicator that we have taken a big leap forward as a whole program.

"Our culture and the students' own standard for excellence is rising. It is a moment to celebrate and we have. Now, we need to get right back to work and clean up where we are still less than stellar."

Plainwell's show is titled "The Rise of Baba Yaga," and it provides a look at the mythical Baba Yaga character from folklore through the Eastern European perspective.

PHS will next perform the show at Grand Ledge on Saturday, Oct. 25, for the state semifinals. Every Flight IV band in the state is expected to participate, with the top 10 bands advancing to the State Finals the weekend of Nov. 1 at Ford Field in Detroit.

"Rankings will shift this Saturday while we're idle and other bands are competing," Hepinstall said. "But at the moment, we're likely looking at a top-four ranking going into semis."

Much of the reason for Plainwell's success this season, Hepinstall believes, is the hard work many of the band members have put in during the offseason.

"A lot of our students in the offseason have been joining indoor competitive groups during the winter," he said. "We also host a non-profit called Perfect Storm Performing Arts that many of our band students have gotten involved in. Their involvement has elevated their understanding and execution of the marching arts.

"Our students are entering the season with extra experience that makes the program as a whole better."

But it's not just the work of the students that goes into making the band successful. Rather, the parent volunteers and the district administration also play a vital role, according to Hepinstall.

"We don't have the success we have without the army of parent volunteers that keep showing up to build and maintain props, feed the students on show days, maintain the uniforms and more. I am so immensely grateful for the help and support that we have.

"And our administrators are terrific supporters of this program as well. Almost every time we share with them that we have a need, they find a way to allocate money to provide for that need. They show up to help with props and equipment needs for performances. We could not be more grateful for the great relationships we have with administration and athletics to help support our students."

Members of the PHS marching band perform at the Sparta Invitational. (Photo provided)

Otsego schedules fall leaf pickup

By Jason Wesseldyk
Sports Editor

The City of Otsego Public Works Department has announced the dates for its annual fall leaf pick-up.

Two rounds of pickup will take place, with the first running from Monday, Oct. 27, through Thursday, Oct. 30, and the second happening from Monday, Nov. 10, through Thursday, Nov. 13.

Residents are reminded that leaves should not be placed in the streets prior to Saturday, Oct. 25.

Residents of Allegan Street (M-89) are asked to continue to place leaves in the curb lawn as opposed to in the street. Leaves should be placed away from trees and poles in order to provide easier access.

Collection dates will be Thursday, Oct. 30, and Thursday, Nov. 13, for Allegan Street and Farmer Street.

With the exception of Allegan and Farmer streets, all leaves should be raked into the street next to the curb. If the leaves are not in the street, they will not be picked up.

"The City's policy is to canvass all streets at least twice during the two week pick-up period," officials said in a statement. "If the leaves are not in the street they will not be picked up."

Residents are asked not to place anything except leaves in the street.

"The City places these leaves on a compost pile and, therefore, branches, twigs and other yard waste must not be included," officials said.

Loose leaves will no longer be picked up after a street has been picked up twice and the street sweeper has passed. For safety purposes, residents are reminded that they should not rake leaves into the street after the second pickup.

"If leaves are placed in the street after completion of the canvassing, they will not be removed," officials said. "It is the resident's responsibility to dispose of the leaves at the Transfer Station."

The Transfer Station is located off Helen Avenue. Brush and other yard waste can also be taken to the transfer station. There is no cost.

The transfer station is open Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 11:45 p.m. and from 1 p.m. to 3:45 p.m.

Additional announcements will be posted on the city's website and on its Facebook page.

For more information, contact Otsego City Hall at (269) 692-3391.

Plainwell council to consider purchases

By John Raffel
Correspondent

PLAINWELL — The Plainwell City Council was set to consider various recommendations at its meeting on Monday.

The Council was to consider approving the purchase of a new utility locator from C&S Solutions, Inc. for $8,120.00.

The council was also to consider approving the purchase of a SCADA system.

Council will consider setting a public hearing for November 10, 2025 for consideration of an IFT application from Profielnorm USA, LLC and to afford the applicant, the City Assessor and a representative of each taxing unit an opportunity to be heard with regard to said application.

Also, Council members were to consider approving Resolution 2025-18 as presented, which recommends approval of a Social District Permit for Mosaic Distillery by the Michigan Liquor Control Commission.

PHS student council participates in leadership conference

The Plainwell High School Student Senate recently had the chance to participate in the Michigan Association of Student Councils (MASC) leadership conference held in Grand Rapids.

Grant Comer, a senior at PHS and a member of the Student Board of Delegates for MASC, played an active role in the conference by leading various sessions. (Photos provided)

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Otsego captures second consecutive regional crown

By Jason Wesseldyk
Sports Editor

EAST LANSING—Prior to last season, the Otsego girls golf team had never won a regional championship.

Now the Bulldogs have captured back-to-back regional titles

Participating in the Division 3 regional at Michigan State University's Forest Akers East on Thursday, Oct. 9, Otsego rolled to the top spot in the team standings with an 18-hole score of 356.

Runner-up Battle Creek Harper Creek was 21 strokes behind at 377. Charlotte secured the third and final state-qualifying berth with its score of 378.

Second-year Otsego coach Michael Miller couldn't have been happier for his golfers and the program.

"This means a lot to me and to the team," he said. "To do it two years in a row shows that it wasn't an accident or luck.

"Golf is already a tough sport, and coming into regionals as the favorite each year adds even more pressure. To not only back it up, but to win by double digits again is an impressive accomplishment."

Otsego won the regional title by 30 strokes last year.

Annika Quakenbush led the way for the Bulldogs this year, carding an 82 to finish runner-up in the individual standings. Two teammates joined her in the top 10, while all four of Otsego's scoring golfers placed in the top 12.

Allissa Holmes was fourth with an 86, Avery Selent was eighth with a 83 and Malania Miller was 12th with a 95.

Madden Fitzpatrick also competed for the Bulldogs and placed 30th with a 105.

"The keys to our success were the girls' work ethic this summer and the strength of our schedule," Coach Miller said. "Competing against a strong Plainwell team all year in the Wolverine Conference pushed us to improve.

"We also played challenging courses like Island Hills, Katke, Lynx and American Dunes, which helped the girls develop their skills. Their experience at last year's state finals and on those tougher courses allowed them to stay relaxed and play confident golf this season."

Otsego girls golf coach Michael Miller (far left) and his team celebrating winning their second straight regional title. (Photo provided)

The Division 3 State Finals begin on Friday, Oct. 17, at MSU's Forest Akers West.

"Heading into the state tournament, we truly feel like we can compete for a top spot in Division 3," Coach Miller said. "We have four returning players with State Finals experience who have faced courses similar to Forest Akers West.

"The girls are hungry, focused and eager to prove they're one of the best teams in Michigan."

Plainwell places fourth in D2 regional

In a Division 2 regional at Island Hills Golf Course in Centreville on Wednesday, Oct. 8, Plainwell missed qualifying for the State Finals by one place.

The Trojans placed fourth with a 368 to finish behind third-ranked Forest Hills Central (340), fourth-ranked Lowell (348) and eighth-ranked St. Joseph (356).

Seventh-ranked Gull Lake was also included in the field, finishing fifth at 377.

Despite falling short of qualifying for the Finals as a team, the Trojans will be represented when the State Finals begin at Bedford Valley in Battle Creek on Friday, Oct. 17.

That's because Alya Jaeger shot a 76 to earn medalist honors and give her one of three individual berths to the Finals.

Emma Rayman (17th at 93), Sam Labonte (26th at 99) and Harper Johnson (28th at 100) also scored for the Trojans.

Trailblazer boys, girls claim league championships

By Jason Wesseldyk
Sports Editor

HICKORY CORNERS—It's been said that the only sure things in life are death and taxes.

We might want to add a third item to that list: the Saugatuck boys cross country team winning a SAC championship.

The Trailblazers won the league title for the 13th time in 14 years after taking first place in the SAC Championship meet at the Gilmore Car Museum on Thursday, Oct. 9.

Saugatuck finished with 35 points, to easily outdistance runner-up Black River (64 points).

Fennville was eighth with 221 points and Martin was 10th with 229 points. Allegan participated, but didn't have enough runners to qualify for the team standings.

The win by the boys team gave Saugatuck the clean sweep, as the Trailblazers also won the girls race with 57 points, edging out Hackett by eight points.

Martin (94 points) was third, Fennville (218) was eighth and Allegan (258) was 11th.

Senior Sammy Gamboa was one of five Saugatuck boys to earn All-Conference honors. (Photo by Jason Wesseldyk)

"I'm really happy for our kids," Saugatuck coach Rick Bauer said. "Winning the conference title is always a goal, and it's nice to be able to check that off the list. The girls hadn't won one since 2019, so this was really special for them."

The Saugatuck boys entered the race at less than full strength, as Ira Brown was out with illness.

That, however, didn't slow down the Trailblazers, as all five of their scoring runners earned All-Conference accolades by finishing in the top 20.

Marcus Silva led the way, placing third at 16:43. Grant Rehkopf (fifth at 17:03), Jackson Bowman (sixth at 17:06) and Sawyer Monroe (ninth at 17:10) joined Silva in the top 10.

Sammy Gamboa, one of just two seniors on the team, placed 17th at 17;40.

"Sammy really stepped up for us," Bauer said. "He hasn't necessarily needed to be one of our scoring runners this year, but with Ira out we needed Sammy to help fill that void. He did that in a big way and I'm really proud of him."

Isaac Cruz (28th at 18:47) earned Honorable Mention All-Conference.

Allegan's Kellen Chalupa was the only other area runner to earn All-Conference, as he placed 13th at 17:27. Teammate Thomas Sigler was Honorable Mention All-Conference (21st at 18:06), as was Martin's Jadon Dettmann (30th at 18:49).

The Saugatuck girls, meanwhile, had three runners in the top 10 and four in the top 20.

That included a fourth-placed effort of 19:48 by Alina Martinson. Kamryn Sixberry (20:41) and Lyvia Curtis (20:47) placed eighth and ninth, respectively.

Ellyse Heyser was 14th at 21:31.

Savannah VanDenBerg, the fifth and final scoring runner for Saugatuck, received Honorable Mention All-Conference by placing 22nd at 21:58.

"The girls ran well," Bauer said. "Of course they always want more and some of them weren't happy with where they finished, but they got the job done and were able to celebrate their first SAC championship in six years."

Several other area runners fared well. That included individual runner-up Isabelle Sliter from Fennville, who posted a time of 19:24.

Martin's Veyda Conley was third at 19:44, while Allegan's Jayden VandenAkker was 10th at 20:51. Conley's Martin teammates Allison Rodgers (15th at 21:40) and Sara Schipper (20th at 21:53) also garnered All-Conference recognition.

Senior Alina Martinson was the top finisher for the Saugatuck girls at the SAC meet, placing fourth. (Photo by Jason Wesseldyk)

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ATHLETE of the WEEK

Ayla Jaeger
Plainwell
Golf

Plainwell's Ayla Jaeger has established herself as one of the best golfers not only in the area, but also the entire state.

After being named Golfer of the Year in the Wolverine Conference, Jaeger earned medalist honors at a Division 2 regional, as she earned a berth in the State Finals.

The Finals begin Friday, Oct. 17.

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Fennville outlasts Allegan in districts

By Jason Wesseldyk
Sports Editor

FENNVILLE—When the boys soccer teams from Fennville and Allegan met during the regular season last month, the result was a 1-1 deadlock.

So when the squads squared off in a Division 3 district semifinal in Fennville on Monday, Oct. 13, odds were it was going to be a low-scoring, defensive battle.

And it was just that, with the Blackhawks making a first-half goal stand up for the 1-0 win to bring Allegan's season to an end.

"Allegan is dangerous on the counterattack, but our defense played outstanding, and our keeper came up with a few really nice saves as well," Fennville coach Kyle Nevenzel said. "I'm just really proud of the effort put forth tonight by all of our guys against a tough Allegan squad."

The game's lone goal came midway through the first half when Chava Carranza scored off an assist from Ethan Coffindaffer.

As it turned out, that was enough for Fennville keeper Dereck Arredondo, who made seven saves to secure the shutout.

"I thought we did a nice job of moving the ball around and giving ourselves some nice chances in the offensive third," Nevenzel said. "We didn't capitalize on as many as what we would have liked to, but credit Allegan defensively and their keeper with coming up with big stops."

Fennville was scheduled to play South Haven in the district final at Comstock on Wednesday, Oct. 15. The Blackhawks were in search of their second straight district championship.

Allegan coach Andy Bishop expected the game to be a tough, physical battle.

"In the end, Fennville prevailed, but our guys never gave up," Bishop said.

Bishop praised the play of keeper Nolan Richmond and the Allegan defensive unit led by Noah Greig.

"Nolan did a great job in net for us," said Bishop, whose team beat Parchment 9-1 in an opening-round game on Thursday, Oct. 9. "Giving up only one goal in these rounds is great.

"Noah and the rest of the defense did a great job keeping Fennville's offense from getting inside the 18. Losing 0-1 is a tough one especially when we had some good opportunities, but I'm proud of our guys."

In Allegan's win over Parchment, Colby Bishop scored three times, while Leland McKellips had two goals and an assist. LJ Dial had one goal and two assists to go with one goal each from Jacob Clearwater, Richmond and Ryan Sparks.

"The season overall was great," Andy Bishop said. "I have coached many of these players since they started soccer, so it is sad to see the seniors go, but I am excited for their next chapter in life."

Fennville and Allegan battled in a Division 3 district game on Monday, Oct. 13. (Photo by Jason Wesseldyk)

Clippers stay unbeaten with victory over Sacred Heart Academy

By Jason Wesseldyk
Sports Editor

MARTIN—It was a clash of the titans when Martin hosted Grand Rapids Sacred Heart Academy in a Week 7 football showdown on Wednesday, Oct. 15.

Both teams entered the game with 6-0 records, while Martin was ranked first in 8-Player Division 1 and Sacred Heart was ranked fifth in 8-Player Division 2.

And as he's done throughout the season, Clippers senior quarterback Haylen Buell took center stage, racking up a season-high 268 yards on 28 carries to lead Martin to the 48-26 victory.

One of Buell's carries resulted in a 70-yard touchdown in the second quarter that put the Clippers up 22-7 at the time.

"Haylen is really taking advantage of the moment and is continuing the legacy of talented quarterbacks here at Martin," Martin coach Brad Blauvelt said. "He is growing into the position each week, and his control of the game has been impressive.

"He proved yet again he is an All-State football player."

Although the final margin of victory was 22 points, the game remained close until the fourth quarter. Martin led just 28-20 at halftime.

It was the kind of game Blauvelt was hoping for, as he wanted his team to be challenged and face some adversity.

"The competitiveness of the game is exactly what we needed," he said. "We needed adversity and we got just that, especially in the first half. Our offensive and defensive line played well, and our best skilled players played to their capabilities.

The caliber of the teams involved made the night feel special, despite be playing on a Wednesday as opposed to the typical Friday night.

"It really did feel surprisingly like a Friday night," Blauvelt said. "That's a credit to our fan base and theirs for that. Sacred Heart is a very good football team, and they are well coached."

The game had to be moved to Wednesday because Sacred Heart had a mission trip planned in Oklahoma and were unable to play on Friday.

Seth Toris joined Buell in leading the Martin offense, as he went for a season-high 152 yards rushing.

Buell and Toris also had 10 tackles each to lead the Clippers defensive effort. Buell added an interception.

"Toris' most impactful defensive play came on Sacred Hearts' opening drive when he knocked the ball lose from Sacred Heart's QB, giving us great momentum," Blauvelt said.

In the fourth quarter with the game still close, Ben Romero executed an onside kick that Weson Elkins recovered. Later in that possession, Buell hit Anderson Keeler on a critical third-and-long, with Buell eventually running it in from the 17-yard line to finish the drive and put the game out of reach.

The Clippers end the season with on the road against Lawrence (Friday, Oct. 17) and at home against NorthPointe Christian (Friday, Oct. 24) before starting the postseason.

A pair of Martin defenders chase down the quarterback in the Clippers' win over Sacred Heart Academy. (Photo by Jason Wesseldyk)

"I think our best football is coming in the remaining weeks of the season and as playoffs get started," Blauvelt said. "We will really emphasize fundamentals and details in practice this week and work on getting our speed back."

Thompson scores seven touchdowns to lead Fennville past Calvin

By Jason Wesseldyk
Sports Editor

Carter Thompson was a one-man wrecking crew for the Fennville football team in its home game against Calvin Christian on Friday, Oct. 10.

Not only did Thompson throw for 199 yards and five touchdowns, but he also ran for a pair of TDs to lead the Blackhawks to the 46-20 win.

With the victory, Fennville ended a three-game losing streak and upped its record to 3-4.

"This was a great team win over a quality opponent," Fennville coach Wendel Hughes said. "We finally played a complete game.

"Carter kid an excellent job in the pocket tonight throwing for all those touchdowns and running for a couple more. Shout out to our O-line for giving him time."

Thompson opened the scoring with a 1-yard keeper in the first quarter. In the second quarter, he added a 2-yard scoring run and a 46-yard TD toss to Ely Schut to give Fennville a 20-6 halftime lead.

The Blackhawks extended the lead to 26-6 with a third-quarter scoring strike of 51 yards to Ashton Halcomb.

Calvin narrowed the gap to 26-14 entering the fourth quarter, but Thompson made sure things didn't get any closer as he threw four—yes four—TDs in the final stanza: 13 yards to Schut, three yards to Gavin Kempker, 39 yards to Zay Peoples and 35 yards to Schut.

Thompson also threw a pair for a pair of conversions.

Halcomb led the Fennville ground game with 48 yards on seven carries, while Trinity Solis (25 yards on seven carries), Thompson (24 yards on 15 carries) and Kempker (17 yards on one carry) followed.

On defense, Fennville racked up six tacks. That included three form Ashton Senters, who Hughes called a "true menace."

Schut added a team-best eight tackles to go with two interceptions.

"Ely Schut was a straight up dog tonight on both sides of the ball," Hughes said.

Isiah Souders added six tackles, while Peoples had 5.5. Omar Martinez and Solis had five tackles each.

"It feels good to see the boys put it all together after a tough few weeks of losses," Hughes said. "I told them we were wiping the slate clean and we had a three-game season left, so let's get after it.

"I'm very pleased with their response. As always, it's a great day to be a Blackhawk, but tonight it's a little bit sweeter."

Fennville quarterback Carter Thompson threw for five TDs and ran for two against Calvin. (Photo by Jason Wesseldyk)

Saugatuck football falls to visiting Schoolcraft

By Jason Wesseldyk
Sports Editor

SAUGATUCK—On Friday, Oct. 10, the Saugatuck football team traveled to Schoolcraft for a SAC showdown.

And for most of the opening half, the visiting Trailblazers gave the state-ranked Eagles all they could handle and then some.

Saugatuck led 7-6 in the closing minute of the second quarter.

But Schoolcraft—ranked eighth in Division 7—scored with 15 seconds left before halftime to retake the lead at 12-7 and didn't look back in handing the Trailblazers the 33-13 loss.

The loss was the fourth in a row for Saugatuck, which fell to 2-5 with two games remaining in the season.

Despite the final score, longtime Saugatuck coach Bill Dunn remained proud of the effort his players are putting forth.

"I was really proud of the kids and their ability to compete against a state ranked team tonight," Dunn said. "We had a great first half, leading 7-6 with 19 seconds to go in the half."

Schoolcraft upped its lead to 19-7 after three quarters and used a 14-6 edge in the final frame to end any hope of a Saugatuck comeback.

"The boys played hard in the second half, but Schoolcraft took advantage of more opportunities than we did," Dunn said.

Injuries have also been a factor for the Trailblazers. Not that Dunn is using that as an excuse.

"We are battling late season attrition, with a few key players working through nagging injuries, but that is small school football. And I'm proud of our team's effort and competitiveness at this point in the season."

Max Page accounted for Saugatuck's lone touchdown, finding the end zone in the second quarter. Dante Holley converted on the extra-point kick to give the Trailblazers the 7-6 lead at the time.

Holley also converted on a pair of fourth-quarter field goals to close out the scoring for Saugatuck.

Page finished with a team-best 103 rushing yards on 21 carries. Mason Leslie added 32 yards on six carries, while Walt Bos had 29 yards on nine carries.

Bos also completed 4-of-7 passes for 35 yards. Gabe Lauer was on the receiving end of two of those completions for 17 yards, while Page (six yards) and Carlos Perez (12 yards) each had one catch.

Leslie set the tone defensively with 10 tackles, followed by Page with 8.5 and Jack Drummond with 4.5. Drummond also had a sack, while Lauer added a sack.

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Tigers place fifth at regionals, Neldon qualifies for Finals

By Jason Wesseldyk
Sports Editor

The season came to a close for the Allegan boys tennis team at the Division 4 regional in hosted at Gary Ellis Courts on Thursday, Oct. 9.

The Tigers finished fifth in the 12-team field with 10 points.

Regional champion Berrien Springs (26 points), runner-up Paw Paw (19 points) and Kalamazoo Christian (16 points) all advanced to the D4 State Finals. Niles Brandywine placed fourth with 15 points.

"As a team, we fought hard throughout the day and had several bright spots across the lineup," Allegan coach Damien Arthur said. "The final results weren't quite what we had hoped for, but there was a lot to be proud of and even more to build on moving forward."

While Allegan fell short of qualifying for the Finals as a team, however, the Tigers will still be represented when the D4 tournament begins at the Midland Tennis Center on Monday, Oct. 20.

That's because Silas Neldon finished second at No. 1 singles, earning him a place in the Finals as an individual.

"Silas played some of his best tennis of the season to punch his own ticket to Midland," Arthur said.

In regional play, Neldon received an opening-round bye before ousting Kalamazoo Christian's Luke DeJong in the quarterfinals (6-2, 7-5) and Paw Paw's Terrance Fisher in the semifinals (5-1, 6-4).

Neldon fell by default to Euji Son of Berrien Springs in the finals.

No. 2 singles Ezra Smith also made it to the finals in his flight, ultimately dropping a 6-2, 6-3 decision to Berrien Spring's Phil Seo. Prior to the finals, Smith outlasted South Haven's Jonathan Bevino in the quarterfinals (7-6 (1), 2-6, 6-2) and beat Hackett's Noah Ray in the semis (6-0, 6-2).

No. 4 singles Carson Woodhams won an opening-round match for the Tigers to account for one point.

In doubles, Allegan's No. 1 team of Noah Kuebler/Ian Gaulke made it to the semifinals and the No. 3 team of Gage Mashburn/Charlie Morris won an opening-round match.

"Even though the scoreboard didn't always go our way, our players battled with heart and class in every round, something that truly represents Allegan tennis," Arthur said.

In Division 3, Otsego, Hamilton and Wayland were all part of the regional hosted by Holland.

Otsego placed eighth with three points, while Hamilton and Wayland were part of a three way tie along with Holland for ninth with two points.

Plainwell was part of the D3 regional in Marshall, with the tying for 11th with two points.

Allegan's Ezra Smith finished second at No. 2 singles at a Division 4 regional hosted by the Tigers. (Photo by Shelly Neldon)

Allegan swim & dive team picks up victory over Hastings

The Allegan girls swim & dive team earned an 85-75 victory over Hastings on Tuesday, Oct. 7.

With such a small roster, the Tigers knew every swim would matter—and they rose to the challenge, according to head coach Carol Gephart.

"The girls delivered strong performances across the board, winning 10 of 12 events, including all three relays," Gephart said.

Leading the way for Allegan were: Grace Kelley, who captured first place in both the 200 and 500 freestyle; Eliza DeLaet, who swept the 200 individual medley and 100 butterfly; Zoey Hammer, winner of the 100 backstroke; and Odessa Barnhart, who took the 100 breaststroke.

The Tigers also dominated the relays, with first-place finishes from:

* 200 Medley Relay: Ella Penrod, Eliza DeLaet, Grace Kelley, and Annabell Rowden
* 200 Freestyle Relay: Zoey Hammer, Grace Kelley, Odessa Barnhart, and Eliza DeLaet
* 400 Freestyle Relay: Zoey Hammer, Annabell Rowden, Ella Penrod, and Odessa Barnhart

Strong second-place finishes came from Odessa Barnhart (500 freestyle), Annabell Rowden (diving), Ella Penrod (100 backstroke and 100 freestyle) and Zoey Hammer (50 freestyle). Kyrstin Herren added valuable points with a third-place finish in diving.

Saugatuck volleyball splits matches

By Jason Wesseldyk
Sports Editor

SAUGATUCK—The Saugatuck volleyball team hosted SAC rival Parchment on Thursday, Oct. 9, and the match went down to the wire.

After the teams split the first two sets—Saugatuck took sets two (25-20) and three (25-19), while Parchment won sets one (25-22) and four (25-13)—the Trailblazers held on for the 16-14 win in the fifth and deciding set to take the match.

"It was a tough match," Saugatuck coach Christina Lewis said.

Natalia Laskowski paced Saugatuck with five aces and four blocks. She also had 10 kills, tying Jocelyn Johnson for second on the team behind Emma Gosler's team-best 11.

Two days earlier, Saugatuck dropped a 25-9, 25-10, 25-13 decision to Delton.

Laskowski had six digs, followed by Johnson and Gabbie Cochran with five each.

Laskowski, Johnson and Julia Lowery also had two kills apiece.

Trailblazers fall in district opener

By Jason Wesseldyk
Sports Editor

SAUGATUCK—It's been said that all good things must come to an end.

And for the members of the Saugatuck boys soccer team, that end came on Wednesday, Oct. 8, in a Division 4 district opener.

Hosting Bloomingdale team that entered the game with a 12-2-2 record, the Trailblazers fell just short by a final score of 2-1.

Dante Holley scored the lone Saugatuck goal, with the assist going to Tommy Bullinger.

Holley finished the season with 37 goals and 14 assists.

Allegan football claims homecoming victory

By Jason Wesseldyk
Sports Editor

Allegan football coach Tony Danzig and his players were hoping to put on a show for the homecoming crowd on Friday, Oct. 10.

The Tigers did just that.

Led by a monster game from Brandon Thrash, Allegan rolled to the 50-33 victory to snap a four-game losing skid and improve to 2-5.

"This was a great win for our team," Danzig said. "We are putting all the pieces together, and that showed in our performance in this game."

Thrash trashed the Watervliet defense for 286 rushing yards on 29 carries. Six of those carries resulted in trips to the end zone.

Thrash also had a 2-point conversion run, as he nearly outscored the Panthers single-handedly.

The other Allegan touchdown came courtesy of a 37-yard pass from Landon Geddes to Bradyn Kosiorowski.

As a team, Allegan ran for 328 yards, with Dylan Ritsema adding 42 yards on nine carries.

"We definitely established the line of scrimmage on both sides of the ball," Danzig said.

Myles Jackson was once again a standout on special teams, connecting on all six of his extra-point kicks.

Brody McDade spearheaded the Tigers' defensive effort, finishing with 11 tackles. Aiden Moyer added 10 tackles and a fumble recovery, while Karde Brown had six tackles and an interception.

Hayden McAlpine matched Brown with six tackles, followed by Ritsema with five and Ares Ratulowski with four.

Allegan heads to South Haven on Friday, Oct. 17, before returning home to finish the regular season against Coloma on Friday, Oct. 24.

"Our plan is to finish strong," Danzig said.

Plainwell gets past rival Otsego in pool

By Jason Wesseldyk
Sports Editor

PLAINWELL—Plainwell freshman standout Sophia VanHeest was part of four event wins when the Trojans hosted archrival Otsego in a SCC girls swim & dive meet on Tuesday, Oct. 7.

That effort from VanHeest helped carry Plainwell to the 108-78 victory over the Bulldogs.

VanHeest's individual-event wins came in the 500-yard freestyle (5:27.84) and the 100 backstroke (1:04.93).

She was also part of two winning relays: the 200 medley relay (2:08.59) and the 400 free relay (4:14.58).

The Trojans also got event wins from Olaia Dominguez-Trincado in the 200 IM at 2:29.31 and Sylar Luckett in the 100 free at 1:00.44.

Otsego, meanwhile, matched Plainwell with six event wins, but didn't have enough depth to overcome the Trojans.

Hope Stender and Bella Xenos each had two individual-event victories for the Bulldogs.

Stender won the 200 free (2:10.4) and the 100 butterfly (1:04.72), while Xenos took first in the 50 free (26.78) and the 100 breaststroke (1:21.75).

The Bulldogs' other event wins came from Millie Shattuck in diving (233.95) and the 200 free relay team (1:52.94) that included Stender and Xenos along with Aubrey Smith and Kylee Worden.

Otsego's Hope Stender won two individual events against Plainwell. (Photo by Jason Wesseldyk)

Sophia VanHeest competes in the 500-yard freestyle for Plainwell in the meet with Otsego. (Photo by Jason Wesseldyk)

Hopkins football rolls past Holland

Jason Wesseldyk
Sports Editor

The gridiron matchup between host Hopkins and visiting Holland on Friday, Oct. 10, turned out to be more of a mismatch.

Hopkins quarterback Merek Zapolnik scored on 1-yard keeper in the first quarter—with Vicente Garza converting the PAT—to give the Vikings a 7-0. Hopkins never slowed down, going up 26-0 at halftime en route to the 45-0 win.

Zapolnik also scored on a 1-yard run in the second quarter. Jackson Iciek (24 yards in the second quarter), Blake Schwartz (one yard in the second quarter), Justin VanWagner (23 yards in the third quarter) and Cruz Hitzler (seven yards in the fourth quarter) all added one rushing TD each.

Schwartz completed the scoring with a 16-yard pass to Aidan Schwartz in the final stanza.

Hitzler (129 yards on 14 carries) and VanWagner (111 yards on 14 carries) led the ground attack for Hopkins. Zapolnik finished 6-of-8 passing for 83 yards, with Iciek (three catches for 52 yards) and Blake Hyma (two catches for 27 yards) each hauling in multiple passes.

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Saugatuck brushes off sidewalk chalk debate

By Scott Sullivan
Staff Writer

Saugatuck City Council decided at its Oct. 8 workshop to let well enough alone when it comes to chalk art on public sidewalks.

The question of whether it constitutes free speech or violates a city ordinance banning malicious destruction, damage of, marring, injuring or defacing property has come to light lately thanks to chalking by members of the local political group Good Trouble Indivisible.

Douglas City Council had two nights earlier had instructed city staff and police to enforce its similar ordinance at their discretion.

"The big part of law is interpretation of it," Saugatuck councilman Gregory Muncey said at the Wednesday workshop.

"The city code does not speak clearly to this activity," said city attorney Jake Witte.

"While using chalk to write a message on a sidewalk is a form of expression protected to some extent by the First Amendment, individual freedom of expression is subject to lawful limits when it takes place on government property, even in a traditional public forum like city sidewalks.

"Against this backdrop," he went on, "there are three general approaches city council could consider:

"• Prohibit all public sidewalk chalk inscriptions. Although this would effectively prohibit one medium of expression in a traditional public forum, there would still be ample avenues for expression in that forum.

"For instance, a resident could simply stand there and speak, they could wear a shirt with an expressive message on it, or they could write in chalk on their own driveways or in a private parking lot.

"Pros: This is a relatively easy prohibition to enforce. All chalk-drawn messages on city sidewalks would be prohibited.

"Cons: This could be viewed as an overly restrictive approach that is not consistent with the city's character. The challenge would be to enforce it or, if pressed in court, get a buy-in from the judge.

• Option two, said the lawyer, is allow all sidewalk chalk inscriptions.

"Pros," Witte listed, "this option comes with low administrative burden as the city would not be putting itself in a position where sidewalk chalk inscriptions need to be reviewed or approved. This could also be viewed as consistent with the city's character as a place that embraces expressive behavior and especially art.

"Cons: If the city takes this position it would essentially be allowing any messages to be written on its sidewalks, which means it would be surrendering its regulatory authority altogether. In addition to messages that could be offensive, disagreeable or inconsistent with the city's character, this could also result in conflicts related to the use of sidewalks outside of residences or businesses for certain messages (for instance, a scenario in which someone writes "Eat at the Butler" on the sidewalk in front of Wicks Park Bar & Grille)."

• The last, Witte said, would be to impose specific requirements. "By way of example, this could include limits on size, how long a message can be displayed, what sidewalks can be used for this type of expressive activity and prohibitions on blocking or impeding the public use of sidewalks when inscribing a chalk message.

"Pros," he went on: 'This would avoid some potential conflicts and would help alleviate potential adverse impacts of this activity while still allowing a wide degree of expression.

"Cons: This would be the most administratively involved approach. If standards were created via the pending sign amendment to the city code, that amendment could be set up to impose generally applicable conditions to sidewalk chalk messages.

"This option would require legal counsel and the planning commission to spend time developing this issue," the lawyer said.

"What problem are we trying to solve?" councilperson Joe Clark asked. "I suggest we let this one go."

"It's all very subjective. I'm fine leaving it as it is," peer Lauren Stanton said.

"The challenge is not *what* they are saying," said Russ Gardner. "It's the action itself."

"I'm totally against anything that would put an added burden on city staff our council."

"This is sidewalk chalk," Muncey said. "The rain washes it away."

"As I take it," said city manager Ryan Cummins, "chalking is permitted unless council takes action."

"It is also our right as individuals to wash it off," said Anderson. "I think the consensus is we don't need to talk any more about this."

Faces in the Crowd

By G C Stoppel

This week's question: What are your favorite memories of autumn?

- Man near the Fennville Post Office; sly smile: "Keggers in the Allegan Game Preserve. We'd all chip in to get the beer and then stand around a bonfire and get pretty wasted. I know it was stupid to do, but it was fun."

-Couple near the hardware store in Fennville: Woman: "Carving jack--o-lanterns with the grandchildren. We've done it for several years, and we'll do it this year. It won't be long and they'll say they are too grown up for it." Man: "I get the pumpkins and take pictures."

-Woman near the Blue Goose: "Memories? I don't have any good ones. We belonged to a church where the preacher wouldn't let us put on a costume or go out trick or treating or anything. My folks made us sit at home in the dark and keep quiet. Mother prayed that we'd be safe from the devil."

-Man at a farm stand on M-89: "I'm on a mission! The wife sent me out to get pumpkins. She wants four on the front steps and three more to carve." When asked if there were grandchildren involved, he shook his head and said, "They're too far away. She likes to carve them and put them out just the same."

-Man near the Old Jail Museum in Allegan. A slow smile crept over his face and he wrinkled up his nose. "Leaves. Raking up leaves into piles, when Dad got home from work we'd burn them, and then watch the embers die down. Just like in that cartoon the Trib used to have every fall. Can't do that anymore."

-Woman near the Regent Theater: "This may sound strange, but I couldn't wait for Halloween to be over so we could start getting ready for Thanksgiving and Christmas.: OOh, thatand helping my folks take down the screens and put up storm windows. I don't think people do that much now."

-Older woman, same location: "I've always loved fall fashions. You wouldn't understand that, but plaid skirts, blazers and sweaters, scarves. I changed my fall perfume. After summer, it is such a treat. And when it gets colder, long coats."

-Man near City Hall: "Church suppers. I don't know why, but I like fall church suppers. Maybe it's because my folks took us to them when were kids. Or maybe the tradition of them. I don't know. The food's good, I get to see people I haven't seen for a while, and it reminds me of growing up."

-Man with him: "Well, I'll tell you my worst memories. It's my mother's homemade soup. I don't know where she learned to cook, but that soup was the worst." When asked why, he explained, "Because she took all the leftovers and threw them into a pot, and a small cheap roast, and boiled the hell out of it. There'd be this layer of fat on top when it cooled. And two kid brothers, they slurped trying to see who could be the loudest."

-Man near the ACCF office: "Years ago when we were kids, the corn picker broke when Pa had about an acre left. We picked it by hand. I don't know why, but that always stands out in my mind this time of the year."

NOTICE OF ELECTION TO BE HELD ON NOVEMBER 4, 2025 ALLEGAN COUNTY, MICHIGAN

TO THE QUALIFIED ELECTORS: OF THESE ALLEGAN COUNTY CITIES: DOUGLAS, FENNVILLE, HOLLAND, SAUGATUCK, SOUTH HAVEN AND WAYLAND; OF THESE ALLEGAN COUNTY TOWNSHIPS: CASCO, FILLMORE, GUN PLAIN, HOPKINS, LEIGHTON. OVERISEL, SALEM, AND WAYLAND..

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT AN ELECTION WILL BE HELD ON NOVEMBER 4, 2025. THE POLLS OF SAID ELECTION WILL BE OPEN AT 7 O'CLOCK A.M. AND WILL REMAIN OPEN UNTIL 8 O'CLOCK P.M. ON SAID DAY OF ELECTION.

AT THE PLACES HOLDING THE ELECTION IN SAID MUNICIPALITIES AS INDICATED BELOW:

Douglas City, 86 W. Center St., Douglas MI 49406	**Casco Township**, 7104 107th Ave., South Haven MI 49090
Fennville City, 125 S. Maple St., Fennville, MI 49408	**Fillmore Township**, 4219 52nd St., Holland MI 49423
Holland City, Wd. 4/9 Calvary Baptist Church, 517 W. 32nd	**Gun Plain Township**, voting at Prairieville Township Hall, Barry County
Holland City, Wd. 5/11 & 12 Maplewood Reformed Church, 133 E. 34th St.	**Hopkins Township**, 128 S. Franklin St., Hopkins MI 49328
Saugatuck City, Women's Club, 303 Butler St., Saugatuck, MI 49453	**Leighton Township**, 4451 12th St. Ste. A, Wayland MI 49348
South Haven City, 539 Phoenix St., South Haven MI 49090	**Overisel Township**, A-4307 144 Ave., Holland MI 49423
Wayland City, Pct 1 Safety Complex, 160 W. Superior St.	**Salem Township**, 3003 142nd Ave., Burnips MI 49314
Wayland City, Pct 2 Safety Complex, 160 W. Superior St.	**Wayland Township,** voting at Leighton Township Hall

POLLING LOCATIONS ARE HANDICAPPED ACCESSIBLE – AUDIO AND BRAILLE INSTRUCTIONS ARE AVAILABLE.
PERSONS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS AS DEFINED BY THE AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT SHOULD CONTACT THE APPROPRIATE CLERK'S OFFICE

FOR THE PURPOSE OF ELECTING THE FOLLOWING OFFICES:
CITY City Mayor, City Councils & Commissioners

TAKE FURTHER NOTICE THAT THE FOLLOWING WILL BE VOTED ON:

City Proposals

CITY OF HOLLAND City Of Holland Headlee Override Millage Ballot Proposition Shall the authorized charter millage for the City of Holland, established at 17.5 mills ($17.50 per $1,000 of taxable value) and reduced to 14.4480 mills ($14.45 per $1,000 of taxable value), by the required millage rollbacks, be increased in an amount not to exceed 3.052 ($3.05 per $1,000 of taxable value) to restore the full amount of the original authorized charter rate for each year in perpetuity, as a new additional millage in excess of the limitation imposed by Michigan Compiled Laws section 211.34d, to provide funds for general operating purposes? The estimated additional Ad Valorem tax revenue that the City will collect if the maximum millage is authorized and levied by the City in the 2026 calendar year is approximately $5,221,585.

Township Proposals

FILLMORE TOWNSHIP FIRE AND FIRST RESPONSE PROTECTION RENEWAL MILLAGE PROPOSITION Shall a previous increase in property taxes for all property in the Fillmore Township, Allegan County, Michigan, above the 15 mill tax limitation imposed by Section 6 of Article IX of the Michigan Constitution, to provide funds for fire and first response protection service, which increase has been reduced by required rollback to 1.8157 mills, be renewed and increased to 2.0 mills ($2.00 per $1000.00 of Taxable Value) for five years, 2026 through 2030, inclusive, and shall the Township be authorized to levy the tax? The estimated revenue the Township will collect if the millage is approved and levied in the 2026 calendar year is approximately $392,000.00. LIBRARY MILLAGE PROPOSITION Shall the 15 mill tax limitation on general ad valorem taxes within Fillmore Township, Allegan County, Michigan, imposed under Article IX, Section 6 of the Michigan Constitution, be increased by .35 mill ($0.35 per $1,000 of Taxable Value) for four years, 2025 through 2028, inclusive, for the purpose of providing funds for the operation of the Herrick District Library, and shall the Township be authorized to levy the tax? The estimated revenue the Township will collect if the millage is approved and levied in the 2026 calendar year is approximately $68,000.00. If the millage is approved, the proceeds would be paid to the Herrick District Library by the Township pursuant to a contract granting library privileges to Township residents. WATER/SEWAR RENEWAL MILLAGE PROPOSITION Shall the previously increased 15 mill tax limitation on general ad valorem taxes within Fillmore Township, Allegan County, Michigan, imposed under Article IX, Section 6 of the Michigan Constitution, which increased limitation expired after 2024 and which was reduced by required rollback to 0.4669 mill, be renewed and increased to 0.5. mill ($0.50 per $1,000 of Taxable Value) for four (4) years, 2025 through 2028, inclusive, for the purpose of providing funds for the acquisition, construction, and installation of public water and sewer system improvements, including, but without limitation, water wells, water storage tanks, and water and sewer lines, in the Township of Fillmore, and shall the Township levy such increase in millage for that purpose, thereby raising in the first year an estimated $98,000.00? **HOPKINS TOWNSHIP** PROPOSAL TO APPROVE EXTRA-VOTED ROAD IMPROVEMENT MILLAGE "Shall Hopkins Township impose an increase of up to 1 mill ($1.00 per $1,000 of taxable value) in the tax limitation imposed under Article IX, Sec. 6 of the Michigan Constitution and levy it for four (4) years, 2025 through 2028, inclusive, on all taxable real and personal property in the Township for the purpose of local road repairs, upgrades, construction, improvement, dust control, and maintenance purposes, which 1 mill increase will raise an estimated $125,406.66 in the first year the millage is levied?"

School Proposals

LAKE MICHIGAN COLLEGE CHARTER MILLAGE RENEWAL PROPOSITION FOR OPERATING AND GENERAL PURPOSES $0.6655 ON EACH $1,000 OF TAXABLE VALUATION FOR TWENTY (20) YEARS. **LAKE MICHIGAN COLLEGE** CHARTER MILLAGE RENEWAL AND REDUCTION PROPOSITION FOR CAPITAL PURPOSES
$0.24 ON EACH $1,000 OF TAXABLE VALUATION FOR TEN (10) YEARS. **ZEELAND PUBLIC SCHOOLS BOND PROPOSAL** Shall Zeeland Public Schools, Ottawa and Allegan Counties, Michigan, borrow the sum of not to exceed One Hundred Eighty-Six Million Dollars ($186,000,000) and issue its general obligation unlimited tax bonds therefor, in one or more series, for the purpose of: erecting, remodeling, and equipping and re-equipping school buildings, facilities, and additions to school buildings and facilities; furnishing and refurnishing school buildings and facilities; purchasing school buses; acquiring, installing, equipping and re-equipping school buildings for instructional technology; and acquiring, preparing, developing, improving and equipping athletic fields, play fields, playgrounds, structures, facilities and sites? The following is for informational purposes only: The estimated millage that will be levied for the proposed bonds in 2027 is 2.81 mills ($2.81 on each $1,000 of taxable valuation) for a 0.00 mill net increase over the prior year's levy. The maximum number of years the bonds of any series may be outstanding, exclusive of any refunding, is twenty-one (21) years. The estimated simple average annual millage anticipated to be required to retire this bond debt is 3.90 mills ($3.90 on each $1,000 of taxable valuation). (Pursuant to State law, expenditure of bond proceeds must be audited and the proceeds cannot be used for repair or maintenance costs, teacher, administrator or employee salaries, or other operating expenses.) **KENT ISD** REGIONAL ENHANCEMENT MILLAGE PROPOSAL .8498 MILL ($.8498 ON EACH $1,000 OF TAXABLE VALUATION) FOR 10 YEARS AND .0502 MILL ($0.0502 ON EACH $1,000 OF TAXABLE VALUATION) FOR 10 YEARS TO RESTORE HEADLEE REDUCTION Full text of the ballot proposal may be obtained at the administrative offices of Kent Intermediate School District, 2930 Knapp Street, N.E., Grand Rapids, Michigan 49525-4518, telephone: (616) 364-1333. **BARRY ISD** REGIONAL ENHANCEMENT MILLAGE PROPOSAL Pursuant to state law, the revenue raised by the proposed millage will be collected by the intermediate school district and distributed to constituent districts based on pupil membership count. Shall the limitation on the amount of taxes which may be Assessed against all property in Barry Intermediate School District, Michigan, be increased by 1 mill ($1.00 on each $1,000 of taxable valuation) for a period of 10 years, 2025 to 2034, inclusive, to provide operating funds to enhance other state and local funding for constituent district operating purposes, including providing funding for (1) student behavioral needs, (2) area career and technical education programs, including for vocational training purposes, and (3) the education of students with a disability; the estimate of the revenue the intermediate school district will collect if the millage is approved and levied in 2025 is approximately $1,494,635, which funds will be disbursed as required by statute to: Delton Kellogg Schools, Hastings Area School System, and Lighthouse Academy.

For a full list of all candidates and proposals, please visit our website at www.allegancounty.org or www.michigan.gov/sos

Bob Genetski, Allegan County Clerk/Register

AVISO DE LAS ELECCIONES QUE SE CELEBRAN 4 DE NOVIEMBRE DE 2025 CONDADO DE ALLEGAN, MICHIGAN

A LOS ELECTORES CALIFICADOS: DE ESTAS CIUDADES DEL CONDADO DE ALLEGAN: FENNVILLE.

POR LA PRESENTE SE NOTIFICA QUE SE CELEBRARÁN ELECCIONES EL 4 DE NOVIEMBRE DE 2025. LOS COMICIOS DE DICHAS ELECCIONES SE ABRIRÁN A LAS 7:00 A. M. Y PERMANECERÁN ABIERTOS HASTA LAS 8:00 P. M. DE DICHO DÍA DE ELECCIONES.

EN LOS LUGARES DONDE SE HARÁN LAS ELECCIONES EN TALES MUNICIPALIDADES COMO SE INDICA ABAJO:

Ciudad de Fennville, 125 S. Maple St., Fennville MI 49408	

LOS LUGARES DE VOTACIÓN TIENEN ACCESIBILIDAD PARA PERSONAS CON DISCAPACIDADES; HAY INSTRUCCIONES EN AUDIO Y BRAILLE.
LAS PERSONAS CON NECESIDADES ESPECIALES, TAL COMO SE DEFINEN EN LA LEY PARA ESTADOUNIDENSES CON DISCAPACIDADES, DEBEN PONERSE EN CONTACTO CON LA SECRETARÍA CORRESPONDIENTE.

CON EL FIN DE ELEGIR LOS SIGUIENTES CARGOS:
CIUDAD **Comisionados municipales**

Para conocer el listado completo de todos los candidatos y las propuestas, visite nuestro sitio web www.allegancounty.org o www.michigan.gov/sos.

Bob Genetski, secretario/certificador del Condado de Allegan

Peek at the Past

From the pages of The Allegan News and The Allegan County News and Gazette:

Oct. 16, 1950

Few AHS grads go on to college: Troubled and uncertain times are reflected in the fact that a lower percentage of those who graduated from Allegan High School last June have enrolled in colleges this fall.

According to a report from Arthur Kaechel, superintendent of schools in Allegan, only 14 of a class of 64 have requested a transcript of credits for college enrollment.

Kachele said it is possible that others have enrolled where such a transcript is not required and, if that is the case,, he would like to be notified so that school records could be completed.

For many years, he said, about 30 percent of graduates have entered college. Last year, 30 out of a class of 90 enrolled. Kachele indicated that school attempted to keep track of those who go on to college "to see how well they're succeeding." Most colleges cooperate with the school in sending a copy of grades earned by former students.

Oct. 16, 1975

Tigers set school scoring record: The final score: 54-14.

Was it another Ohio State win? No.

Then could it have been Kent State over Western Michigan? No!

Believe it or not, it was Allegan on the winning end of a lopsided victory over the Comstock Colts, as the Tigers made it look easy while upping their season record to 3-2.

The 54 points is believed to be the biggest total in Allegan football history. In 1969, the Tigers defeated Otsego 48-0, a bigger margin bug a lesser point total.

Allegan, which up to this game had only three touchdowns to its credit in four games, came out scoring quickly and often to notch 27 points in the first quarter.

After receiving the opening kickoff, Bob Mitchell burst for 26 yards around left end before Todd Terry raced 40 yards for six points to become the first of six Tigers to put points on the scoreboard.

Oct. 19, 2000

Vines harvested for wines: In the fall, there is nothing like the fragrance of ripe grapes on the vine.

What better way to celebrate the end of the harvest season than to make a trip to the local winery for a little tasting tour?

In Allegan County, Fenn Valley Vineyards offer wine connoisseurs and novices alike a chance to appreciate the literal fruits of labor.

Michael Null, William Null and Adam Fox

Now is a busy time at Fenn Valley as the grape harvest comes to an end and the process of making wine begins. They grow 14 varieties of grapes and produce 50,000 gallons of wine a year.

Once grapes are plucked from the vine at Fenn Valley's 55-acre vineyard,, they are weighed before being put in a vat where the stems are removed and the grapes are crushed.

From there, the process for red and white wines differs. For white wine, the grapes are then put into a pneumatic press. After pressing, the juice is put into sealed storage tanks with yeast for fermentation. Fermentation can take as little as four days, or as long as three weeks, according to Fenn Valley marketing manager James Van Der Kolk.

To make red wine, the process is a bit different. After being crushed, the grape juice, pulp and skins are put into open tanks with yest for fermentation.

"The color of red wine actually comes from the skin, not from the grape," Van Der Kolk said. "You can make white wine from red grapes if you separate the juice from the skins."

Oct. 15, 2020

Three of thirteen arrested for kidnap plot have county ties: Thursday, October 8, 2020, the announcement by the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) and Michigan State Police that they had charged 13 militants for an alleged attempt to kidnap Governor Gretchen Whitmer and to incite a "civil war" sent tremors across Michigan and beyond. When the initial dust had settled, 13 men associated with militia groups had been arraigned.

Two major charges were brought. The first was a conspiracy to kidnap Governor Whitmer from her Michigan vacation home.

Those arrested during a raid on a house in Detroit's suburbs and given Federal charges were Adam Fox, Barry Croft, Kaleb Franks, Daniel Harris, Brandon Caserta and 24-year-old Ty Garbi. The second charge was for allegedly plotting to overthrow the Michigan government and to incite a civil war. The seven charged under the State's anti-terrorism act were Paul Bellar, Shawn Fix, Eric Molitor, Michael Null, William Null, Pete Musico, and Joseph Morrison.

The fact that Michigan houses a variety of militia groups is not a secret. In the 1990s, the Michigan Militia was one of the largest groups in the U.S. Timothy McVeigh and Terry Nichols, who implemented the Oklahoma City Bombing, hung out in Michigan.

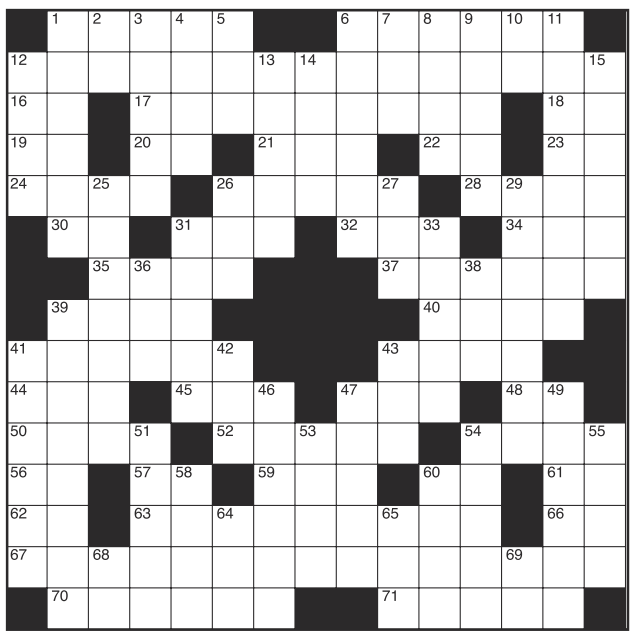
For most Allegan County residents, having William Null from Shelbyville and Michael Null from Plainwell arrested in this plot added another layer of unease. Then, in reviewing the tape where Barry County Sheriff Dar Leaf refers to William Null as "…our home defense" as Null circled the gathered crowd with an assault rifle slung over his shoulder, citizens began to voice their desire to see Sheriff Leaf and other public officials who complimented the militia removed from office.

The Nulls are members of the Wolverine Watchmen, which is known to gather for trainings on weaponry and tactical maneuvers. William was a founder of this group. A major leader is Adam Fox from Grand Rapids where planning meetings were held in the basement of Fox's workplace. Evidence shows the Watchmen had been recruiting members since November 2019, conducting training in the spring, and were inside the Capitol building in April.

—Compiled by Jason Wesseldyk

James Van Der Kolk of Fenn Valley shows off some chambourcin grapes still ripening on the vine. They have a distinct, almost cherrylike after taste and are used in a variety of Fenn Valley wines. (Photo by Kelly L. Mann)

Crossword



CLUES ACROSS
1. Martial arts in China
6. The butt of jokes
12. Nevertheless
16. Sportscaster Michaels
17. A firm believer
18. Atomic #18
19. OneÕs bestie
20. Of I
21. Hamburger accessory
22. Thus
23. Partner to Pa
24. Scottish tax
26. Cuts away
28. Require
30. Government lawyer
31. Own (Scottish)
32. Body cavity
34. Brew
35. Young woman (French)
37. Platforms
39. Pair of points in mathematics
40. Attack suddenly
41. Aviators
43. Make perfect
44. Yearly tonnage (abbr.)
45. Neither
47. The center of a city
48. Sacrifice hit in baseball
50. Singer Redding
52. Dragged forcibly
54. Puncture with a knife
56. Belonging to me
57. Expresses surprise
59. Haul
60. The Golden State
61. Biblical Sumerian city
62. Integrated circuit
63. Opposed to certain principles
66. Sodium
67. Qualities
70. Walk
71. It awaits us all are ÒonÓ

CLUES DOWN
1. Ate quickly
2. Peyton ManningÕs alma mater
3. Moves through water
4. Run away from
5. Utah resident
6. Natural objects
7. ChildrenÕs game
8. Obligation to prove
9. Ancient Greek building for performances
10. Soldier
11. Decorated
12. Catches
13. Russell __, author
14. Speak indistinctly
15. Students get them
25. Japanese warrior
26. Dessert
27. Doleful
29. Most cushy
31. Moon crater
33. Small evergreen Arabian tree
36. Something fugitives
38. 007Õs creator
39. Paintings on hinged panels
41. Type of bomb
42. Japanese classical theater
43. U.S. govÕt department
46. Flightless bird
47. One who cuts wood or stone
49. Buttock and thigh together
51. A way to gather
53. Body part
54. Argentinian city
55. Undergarments
58. Jai __, sport
60. Container for shipping
64. Type of screen
65. Get free of
68. Indicates position
69. Business department

■ see **Solution**, Page B7

Deaths

Sept. 16, 2025
GEORGE MICHAEL GAMA, 60, Trowbridge Twp.
Sept. 19, 2025
DAVID ALLEN KRUGER, 62, Casco Twp.
Sept. 22, 2025
MABLE ELLEN HOLMES, 90, Saugatuck Twp.
Sept. 23, 2025
EDWARD ALAN STIELSTRA, 83, Laketown Twp.
Sept. 24, 2025
CLARENCE RICHARD KEESEE, 81, Leighton Twp.
Sept. 26, 2025
MARY ALICE MCKEOWN, 100, Ganges Twp.
MAARTEN JON BUSSER, 77, Clyde Twp.
ANGELA HELENE KUBALL, 61, Fennville
MICHELE WARNER, 63, Saugatuck Twp.
Sept. 29, 2025
JOSEPH MARION MEADE, 83, Allegan Twp.
Sept. 30, 2025
AUSTIN CURTIS KASINGER, 21, Overisel Twp.
Oct. 1, 2025
MARGARET ANN MCGAREY, 76, Gun Plain Twp.
Oct. 3, 2025
DORIS WINKLER PARKER, 96, Salem Twp
WAYNE ALLEN SNELLER, 78, Laketown Twp.
Oct. 4, 2025
JERRY VERNON DRIVER, 79, Salem Twp.
ELSIE FAYE CHILDS, 76, Clyde Twp.

Marriages

The following people applied for a marriage license between Oct. 1 and Oct. 7:

ISAAC GENE DILLARD, Wayland, and **AMANDA LORAINE SCRIBNER**, Wayland
ALEXIS ELIZABETH GARCIA, Wayland, and **ETHAN BLAKE SHELTON**, Wayland
JORDAN LEE GODSIL, Plainwell, and **MELINDA LINN HOUSTON**, Plainwell
LEVI MARCUS VANDAM, Dorr, and **REEGAN INEZ ZOMER**, Dorr
BREANNA KAYLYN FRAMPTON, Otsego, and **EMMA ELIZABETH BROOKS**, Battle Creek
CHAYSE NOELLE BROWN, Allegan, and **JARON LEE HARTHUN**, Allegan
TAYLOR MARIE GEERS, Wayland, and **JACKSON THOMAS ALLEN GOTTSCHALK**, Sturgis
EDWARD PAUL BRUINING, Dorr, and **AUTUMN RENA NEAL**, Dorr
NICHOLAS ANTONIO CORTEZ, Allegan, and **SHELBY NICOLE SMITH**, Allegan
KIRSTEN RENEE HICKS, Otsego, and **AIDEN DOUGLAS JOHNSON**, Otsego
JESSE MAGNOLIA NEUMANN, Wayland, and **RYAN JOSEPH CINZORI**, Wayland
CHARLES MICHAEL BENDER, Martin, and **ESTHER SUE SELBY**, Allegan
ELIZABETH EILENE ODEA, Shelbyville, and **GAGE THOMAS OWINGS**, Shelbyville
BRITNEY ANNE ROBINSON, Otsego, and **JEREMY SCOTT METZ**, Otsego
LEIGHANNE JAYDI VEENSTRA, Hamilton, and **AUSTIN MICHAEL MITTS**, Fennville
CODY LEE WHITENER, Wayland, and **STEFANY LYNN VANDYK**, Wayland
SAMANTHA JOANNE BARNES, Allegan, and **MATTHEW ROBERT GRAVES**, Allegan
TAYLOR KAY GILLIHAN, Shelbyville, and **MATTHEW ALLAN MCGINNIS**, Shelbyville
JESSICA DANIELLE DIAZ, Otsego, and **CONWAY HARDEN HARPE**, FAIRMOUNT, IN

SUDOKU

Fun By The Numbers
Like puzzles? Then you'll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test!

	8			4				
2		1		7		5		6
4								
			3	8				
							6	9
5							8	1
	2	3						
	5			6			2	8
7					4		5	

(See Solution Page B7)

Public Notices

Notice of Foreclosure by Advertisement

Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Allegan County, starting promptly at 9:00 AM, on November 6, 2025. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information:

Name(s) of the mortgagor(s): Terry Mohrland Jr., An Unmarried Man

Original Mortgagee: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for lender and lender's successors and/or assigns

Foreclosing Assignee (if any): Wells Fargo Bank, N.A.

Date of Mortgage: June 5, 2014

Date of Mortgage Recording: June 11, 2014

Amount claimed due on date of notice: $115,682.52

Description of the mortgaged premises: Situated in Township of Cheshire, Allegan County, Michigan, and described as: Commencing at the Northeast corner of Section 3, Town 1 North, Range 14 West; thence West 165 feet to the point of beginning; thence South 715.75 feet; thence West 140.05 feet; thence North 451.75 feet; thence North 20 degrees 58 minutes 21 seconds East 193.75 feet; thence North 83.03 feet; thence East 66.02 feet to the point of beginning.

Common street address (if any): 1187 Kimbel Dr, Allegan, MI 49010-8314

The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCL 600.3241a; or, if the subject real property is used for agricultural purposes as defined by MCL 600.3240(16).

If the property is sold at foreclosure sale under Chapter 32 of the Revised Judicature Act of 1961, pursuant to MCL 600.3278 the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period.

Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice.

This notice is from a debt collector.

Date of notice: September 25, 2025

Trott Law, P.C.

31440 Northwestern Hwy, Suite 145

Farmington Hills, MI 48334

(248) 642-2515

1572538

(09-25)(10-16)

FORECLOSURE NOTICE Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice. Notice of foreclosure by advertisement. Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Allegan County, starting promptly at 09:00 AM, November 6, 2025. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of the sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information. Default has been made in the conditions of a certain mortgage made by Joseph Anderson, An Unmarried Man to Fifth Third Bank, National Association, Mortgagee, dated August 28, 2020, and recorded on September 3, 2020, in Liber 4506, Page 19, Allegan County Records, , on which mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of One Hundred Forty-Nine Thousand Four Hundred Thirty-Three and 54/100 ($149,433.54) including interest at the rate of 3.12500% per annum. Said premises are situated in the Township of Gun Plain, Allegan County, Michigan, and are described as: Commencing at the West Quarter post of Section 32 Town 1 North, Range 11 West; Thence North 00 degrees 19 minutes 22 seconds East 283.32 feet to the point of beginning of this description; Thence continuing North 00 degrees 19 minutes 22 seconds East on said Section line 368.86 feet to the center of chart drain; Thence North 72 degrees 03 minutes 40 seconds East on the center of said drain 946.55 feet to the centerline of Douglas Avenue; Thence South 30 degrees 00 minutes 57 seconds East on the centerline of said Avenue 164.21 feet; Thence South 56 degrees 01 minute 42 seconds West 357.72 feet; Thence South 28 degrees 21 minutes 32 seconds East 188.89 feet; Thence South 78 degrees 56 minutes 07 seconds West 792.56 feet to the point of beginning. Commonly known as: 130 10TH STREET, PLAINWELL, MI 49080 If the property is eventually sold at foreclosure sale, the redemption period will be 6.00 months from the date of sale unless the property is abandoned or used for agricultural purposes. If the property is determined abandoned in accordance with MCL 600.3241 and/or 600.3241a, the redemption period will be 30 days from the date of sale, or 15 days after statutory notice, whichever is later. If the property is presumed to be used for agricultural purposes prior to the date of the foreclosure sale pursuant to MCL 600.3240, the redemption period is 1 year. Pursuant to MCL 600.3278, if the property is sold at a foreclosure sale, the borrower(s) will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period. TO ALL PURCHASERS: The foreclosing mortgagee can rescind the sale. In that event, your damages are, if any, limited solely to the return of the bid amount tendered at sale, plus interest. Dated: September 25, 2025 Randall S. Miller & Associates, P.C. Attorneys for Fifth Third Bank, N.A. 43252 Woodward Avenue, Suite 180, Bloomfield Hills, MI 48302, (248) 335-9200 Hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Case No. 23MI01029-2

(09-25)(10-16)

Notice of Foreclosure by Advertisement

Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Allegan County, starting promptly at 9:00 AM, on November 6, 2025. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information:

Name(s) of the mortgagor(s): Matthew W Carpenter, single man

Original Mortgagee: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as mortgagee, as nominee for lender and lender's successors and/or assigns

Foreclosing Assignee (if any): PennyMac Loan Services LLC

Date of Mortgage: August 7, 2019

Date of Mortgage Recording: September 4, 2019

Amount claimed due on date of notice: $128,450.93

Description of the mortgaged premises: Situated in Township of Valley, Allegan County, Michigan, and described as: Part of the Northeast 1/4 of the Northeast 1/4 of Section 15, Town 2 North, Range 14 West, Valley Township, Allegan County, Michigan, described as follows: Commencing at the Northeast corner of said Section, thence North 88 degrees 35 minutes 00 seconds West 1315.73 feet along the North line of said Section to the 1/8 post of the Northeast 1/4 of said Section; thence South 00 degrees 19 minutes 44 seconds West 259.46 feet along West line of the Northeast 1/4 of the Northeast 1/4 of said Section to the point of beginning; thence continuing South 00 degrees 19 minutes 44 seconds West 423.94 feet to the centerline of Allegan Dam Road; thence South 70 degrees 29 minutes 19 seconds East 104.77 feet along said centerline, thence North 00 degrees 19 minutes 44 seconds East 456.49 feet; thence North 88 degrees 35 minutes 00 seconds West 98.97 feet to the point of beginning.

Common street address (if any): 4040 Allegan Dam Rd, Allegan, MI 49010-8932

The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCL 600.3241a; or, if the subject real property is used for agricultural purposes as defined by MCL 600.3240(16).

If the property is sold at foreclosure sale under Chapter 32 of the Revised Judicature Act of 1961, pursuant to MCL 600.3278 the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period.

Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice.

This notice is from a debt collector.

Date of notice: October 2, 2025

Trott Law, P.C.

31440 Northwestern Hwy, Suite 145

Farmington Hills, MI 48334

(248) 642-2515

1573118

(10-02)(10-23)

Notice of Foreclosure by Advertisement

Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Allegan County, starting promptly at 9:00 AM, on November 6, 2025. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information:

Name(s) of the mortgagor(s): Lisa M. Annunziata, a single woman

Original Mortgagee: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as mortgagee, as nominee for lender and lender's successors and/or assigns

Foreclosing Assignee (if any): The Bank of New York Mellon FKA The Bank of New York, as Trustee for the certificate-holders of the CWABS, Inc., Asset-Backed Certificates, Series 2007-10

Date of Mortgage: June 11, 2007

Date of Mortgage Recording: June 19, 2007

Amount claimed due on date of notice: $120,283.55

Description of the mortgaged premises: Situated in Township of Dorr, Allegan County, Michigan, and described as: The North 1/2 of the Southeast 1/4 of the Northeast 1/4 except railroad property, also except commencing 1327.76 feet South of the Northeast corner; thence South 75 feet; thence North 88 degrees 41 minutes 14 seconds West 234.01 feet; thence North 76.35 feet; thence East 233.26 feet to the point of beginning, also except commencing 1402.93 feet South of the Northeast corner of Section; thence South 66 feet; thence North 88 degrees 42 minutes 52 seconds West 234 feet; thence South 109 feet; thence North 88 degrees 42 minutes 52 seconds West 475 feet; thence North 44 degrees 06 minutes 38 seconds West 35.91 feet; thence North 225 feet; thence South 88 degrees 42 minutes 52 seconds East 500 feet; thence South 75.11 feet; thence South 88 degrees 52 minutes 52 seconds East 234.01 feet to the point of beginning, Section 21, Town 4 North, Range 12 West, Allegan County, Michigan.

Common street address (if any): 4142 18th St, Dorr, MI 49323-8008

The redemption period shall be 1 year from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCL 600.3241a.

If the property is sold at foreclosure sale under Chapter 32 of the Revised Judicature Act of 1961, pursuant to MCL 600.3278 the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period.

Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice.

This notice is from a debt collector.

Date of notice: October 2, 2025

Trott Law, P.C.

31440 Northwestern Hwy, Suite 145

Farmington Hills, MI 48334

(248) 642-2515

1573628

(10-02)(10-23)

Notice of Foreclosure by Advertisement

Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Allegan County, starting promptly at 9:00 AM, on November 20, 2025. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information:

Name(s) of the mortgagor(s): Jonathan M. Buczek, AKA Jonathan Buczek, a married man and Kathryn M. Buczek, his wife

Original Mortgagee: Chemical Bank

Foreclosing Assignee (if any): U.S. BANK TRUST NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, NOT IN ITS INDIVIDUAL CAPACITY BUT SOLELY AS OWNER TRUSTEE FOR RCAF ACQUISITION TRUST

Date of Mortgage: October 8, 2015

Date of Mortgage Recording: November 2, 2015

Amount claimed due on date of notice: $156,050.66

Description of the mortgaged premises: Situated in Township of Valley, Allegan County, Michigan, and described as: Unit 10, Nature View Estates, a Site Condominium according to the Master Deed recorded in Liber 3170, Page 288, as amended, in the Office of the Allegan County Register of Deeds, and designated as Allegan County Condominium Subdivision Plan No. 275, together with rights in general common elements and limited common elements as set forth in said Master Deed, and amendments thereto, and as described in Act 59 of the Public Acts of 1978, as amended.

Common street address (if any): 1603 Nature View Ln, Allegan, MI 49010-9112

The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCL 600.3241a; or, if the subject real property is used for agricultural purposes as defined by MCL 600.3240(16).

If the property is sold at foreclosure sale under Chapter 32 of the Revised Judicature Act of 1961, pursuant to MCL 600.3278 the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period.

Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice.

This notice is from a debt collector.

Date of notice: October 2, 2025

Trott Law, P.C.

31440 Northwestern Hwy, Suite 145

Farmington Hills, MI 48334

(248) 642-2515

1573627

(10-02)(10-23)

Notice of Foreclosure by Advertisement

Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Allegan County, starting promptly at 9:00 AM, on November 6, 2025. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information:

Name(s) of the mortgagor(s): Dustin Wendt, and Desiree Wendt, husband and wife

Original Mortgagee: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as mortgagee, as nominee for lender and lender's successors and/or assigns

Foreclosing Assignee (if any): Pennymac Loan Services, LLC

Date of Mortgage: October 30, 2020

Date of Mortgage Recording: November 4, 2020

Amount claimed due on date of notice: $179,596.38

Description of the mortgaged premises: Situated in Township of Monterey, Allegan County, Michigan, and described as: The West 330 feet of the North 330 feet of the East half of the Southwest quarter of Section 29, Town 3 North, Range 13 West, Township of Monterey, Allegan County, Michigan.

Common street address (if any): 3348 127th Ave, Allegan, MI 49010-9230

The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCL 600.3241a; or, if the subject real property is used for agricultural purposes as defined by MCL 600.3240(16).

If the property is sold at foreclosure sale under Chapter 32 of the Revised Judicature Act of 1961, pursuant to MCL 600.3278 the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period.

Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice.

This notice is from a debt collector.

Date of notice: October 2, 2025

Trott Law, P.C.

31440 Northwestern Hwy, Suite 145

Farmington Hills, MI 48334

(248) 642-2515

1573627

(10-02)(10-23)

Notice of Foreclosure by Advertisement

Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Allegan County, starting promptly at 9:00 AM, on November 6, 2025. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information:

Name(s) of the mortgagor(s): Laurie Ann Brand, a unmarried woman

Original Mortgagee: Mortgage Center

Foreclosing Assignee (if any): None

Date of Mortgage: September 13, 2023

Date of Mortgage Recording: September 22, 2023

Amount claimed due on date of notice: $191,728.00

Description of the mortgaged premises: Situated in City of Allegan, Allegan County, Michigan, and described as: Lot(s) 28 and 44 of Rossman's Add. to the Village (now city) of Allegan according to the plat thereof recorded in Liber 2 of Plats, Page 5 of Allegan County Records.

Common street address (if any): 47 Wayne St, Allegan, MI 49010-1656

The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCL 600.3241a; or, if the subject real property is used for agricultural purposes as defined by MCL 600.3240(16).

If the property is sold at foreclosure sale under Chapter 32 of the Revised Judicature Act of 1961, pursuant to MCL 600.3278 the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period.

Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice.

This notice is from a debt collector.

Date of notice: October 2, 2025

Trott Law, P.C.

31440 Northwestern Hwy, Suite 145

Farmington Hills, MI 48334

(248) 642-2515

1573628

(10-02)(10-23)

FORECLOSURE NOTICE (Allegan County) NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE BY ADVERTISEMENT. Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Allegan County (at East front entrance to the Allegan County Building in Allegan County, Michigan.), starting promptly at 9:00 o'clock A.M. on Thursday, November 6, 2025. Default has been made in the terms and conditions of the mortgage made by Timothy T. West, unmarried, as original mortgagor, to The Huntington National Bank, a national banking association, as original mortgagee, dated April 19, 2013, and recorded on April 30, 2013, at the Allegan County, Michigan Register of Deeds, in Liber 3733, commencing on Page 59. The amount claimed to be due on this mortgage, on the date of this notice, was $27,660.31. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of the sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information. The description of the mortgaged premises is all that certain piece or parcel of land situated in the Township of Watson, in the County of Allegan and State of Michigan further described as follows: Commencing at a point 10 Rods East of the Southwest corner of the East 1/2 of the Northwest 1/4 of Section 17, Town 2 North, Range 12 West, as a place of beginning; thence East 100 feet; thence North 300 feet; thence West 100 feet; thence South 300 feet to the place of beginning. Commonly known as: 2145 119th Ave., Allegan, MI The redemption period shall be Six (6) months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCLA 600.3241a, in which case the redemption period shall be thirty (30) days from the date of such sale or when the time to provide the notice required by MCLA 600.3241a(c) expires, whichever is later or unless the redemption period is shortened in accordance with MCLA 600.3238. If the property is sold at a foreclosure sale, under MCLA 600.3278, the borrower and mortgagor will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period. Attention Homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice. Attention Purchasers: This sale may be rescinded by the foreclosing mortgagee. In that event, your damages, if any, shall be limited solely to the return of the bid amount tendered at sale, plus interest. Shaheen, Jacobs & Ross, P.C. is a debt collector attempting to collect this debt and any information obtained will be used for that purpose. Dated: September 26, 2025 The Huntington National Bank, a national banking association, Mortgagee SHAHEEN, JACOBS & ROSS, P.C. By: Michael J. Thomas, Esq. Attorney for Mortgagee 615 Griswold Street, Suite 1425 Detroit, Michigan 48226-3993 (313) 963-1301

(10-02)(10-23)

SHORT FORECLOSURE NOTICE - ALLEGAN COUNTY Notice of Foreclosure by Advertisement. Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Allegan County, starting promptly at 9:00 AM, on November 06, 2025. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of the sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information. MORTGAGE: Mortgagor(s): Aidan J. Taylor, unmarried man Original Mortgagee: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc. ("MERS"), solely as nominee for lender and lender`s successors and assigns Date of mortgage: October 8, 2024 Recorded on October 17, 2024, Liber 4982, on Page 852, Foreclosing Assignee (if any): Union Home Mortgage Corp. Amount claimed to be due at the date hereof: Two Hundred Forty-Four Thousand Eight Hundred Sixty-Five and 95/100 Dollars ($244,865.95) Mortgaged premises: Situated in Allegan County, and described as: Commencing at a point on the West edge of 30th Street 330 feet North of its intersection with the East-West 1/4 line of Section 15; thence South 177.5 feet to the Point of Beginning; thence West 164 feet; thence South 152.5 feet; thence East 164 feet; thence North 152.5 feet to the Point of Beginning, located in Section 15, Township 1 North, Range 13 West. Commonly known as 696 30th St, Allegan, MI 49010 The redemption period will be 6 month from the date of such sale, unless abandoned under MCL 600.3241a, in which case the redemption period will be 30 days from the date of such sale, or 15 days from the MCL 600.3241a(b) notice, whichever is later; or unless extinguished pursuant to MCL 600.3238. If the above referenced property is sold at a foreclosure sale under Chapter 32 of Act 236 of 1961, under MCL 600.3278, the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period. Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice. MORTGAGE: Mortgagor(s): Troy Thibodeaux, a single man Original Mortgagee: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc. ("MERS"), solely as nominee for lender and lender`s successors and assigns Date of mortgage: January 26, 2017 Recorded on February 1, 2017, Liber 4110, on Page 60, Foreclosing Assignee (if any): Nationstar Mortgage LLC Amount claimed to be due at the date hereof: Fifty-Five Thousand One Hundred Fifty-Five and 22/100 Dollars ($55,155.22) Mortgaged premises: Situated in Allegan County, and described as: Commencing at a point on the town line between Wayland and Martin Township, 20 rods and 8 feet East of the Southwest corner of the East 1/2 of the East 1/2 of the Southwest 1/4 of Section 32, in Township of Wayland, Allegan County, Michigan, running thence 10 rods North; thence 4 rods East; thence 10 rods South; thence West 4 rods to the place of beginning. Also commencing at a point on the township line between Martin and Wayland Township and the Southwest corner of the East 1/2 of the East 1/2 of the Southwest 1/4 of Section 32; thence 16 rods 8 feet East to the place of beginning; thence North 10 rods; thence East 4 rods; thence South 10 rods; thence West 4 rods to the place of beginning, Allegan County, Michigan. This property may also be described as: That part of the East 1/2 of the East 1/2 of the Southwest 1/4, Section 32, Town 3 North, Range 11 West, Wayland Township, Allegan County, Michigan, described as: Commencing at the South 1/4 corner of said Section; thence South 90 degrees 00 minutes 00 seconds West 258.48 feet to the East line of

(Continued on Page B7)

Public Notices

Continued from Page B6

the West 404.0 feet of said East 1/2, and the place of beginning; thence continuing South 90 degrees 00 minutes West 132.0 feet; thence North 0 degrees 08 minutes East 165.0 feet parallel with the West line of said East 1/2; thence North 90 degrees 00 minutes East 132.0 feet; thence South 00 degrees 08 minutes West 165.0 feet to the place of beginning. Subject to highway right of way over the South 33 feet thereof. Commonly known as 927 124th Ave, Shelbyville, MI 49344 The redemption period will be 6 month from the date of such sale, unless abandoned under MCL 600.3241a, in which case the redemption period will be 30 days from the date of such sale, or 15 days from the MCL 600.3241a(b) notice, whichever is later; or unless extinguished pursuant to MCL 600.3238. If the above referenced property is sold at a foreclosure sale under Chapter 32 of Act 236 of 1961, under MCL 600.3278, the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period. Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice. Nationstar Mortgage LLC Mortgagee/Assignee Schneiderman & Sherman P.C. 23938 Research Dr, Suite 300 Farmington Hills, MI 48335 248.539.7400

1573781

(10-02)(10-23)

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE BY ADVERTISEMENT. Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in ALLEGAN County, starting promptly at 9:00 AM, on November 6, 2025. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of the sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information. MORTGAGE INFORMATION: Default has been made in the conditions of a certain mortgage made by Nathan Kupres, married man, whose address is 307 Sib Rumery Street, Wayland, Michigan 49348, as original Mortgagors, to MORTGAGE ELECTRONIC REGISTRATION SYSTEMS, INC., AS NOMINEE FOR LOWER, LLC, being a mortgage dated January 23, 2024, and recorded on January 30, 2024 in Liber 4917 Page 678, Allegan County Records, State of Michigan and then assigned to Amerihome Mortgage Company, LLC, as assignee as documented by an assignment dated January 27, 2025 and recorded on January 27, 2025 in Liber 5007 Page 487, Allegan County Records, Michigan, on which mortgage there is claimed to be due at the date hereof the sum of TWO HUNDRED FOURTEEN THOUSAND NINE HUNDRED THIRTY-FOUR AND 81/100 DOLLARS ($214,934.81). Said premises are situated in the City of Wayland, County of Allegan, State of Michigan, and are described as: LOT 38, WAYLAND HEIGHTS NUMBER 1, CITY OF WAYLAND, ALLEGAN COUNTY, MICHIGAN, ACCORDING TO THE RECORDED PLAT IN LIBER 7 OF PLATS, PAGE 9. Street Address: 307 Sib Rumery Street, Wayland, Michigan 49348 The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless the property is determined abandoned in accordance with MCLA § 600.3241a in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of the sale. If the property is sold at a foreclosure sale under Chapter 32 of the Revised Judicature Act of 1961, pursuant to MCLA § 600.3278, the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period. THIS FIRM IS A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT AND ANY INFORMATION WE OBTAIN WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. ATTENTION HOMEOWNER: IF YOU ARE A MILITARY SERVICE MEMBER ON ACTIVE DUTY, IF YOUR PERIOD OF ACTIVE DUTY HAS CONCLUDED LESS THAN 90 DAYS AGO, OR IF YOU HAVE BEEN ORDERED TO ACTIVE DUTY, PLEASE CONTACT THE ATTORNEY FOR THE PARTY FORECLOSING THE MORTGAGE AT THE TELEPHONE NUMBER STATED IN THIS NOTICE. Dated: October 9, 2025 For more information, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing: Robert A. Blumberg (P87490), Johnson, Blumberg, & Associates, LLC, 5955 West Main Street, Suite 509, Kalamazoo, MI 49009. Telephone: (312) 541-9710. File No.: MI 25 6738

(10-09)(10-30)

Notice of Foreclosure by Advertisement

Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Allegan County, starting promptly at 9:00 AM, on November 6, 2025. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information:

Name(s) of the mortgagor(s): Anthony Allen Carpenter, a single man

Original Mortgagee: Lake Michigan Credit Union

Foreclosing Assignee (if any): None

Date of Mortgage: September 20, 2023

Date of Mortgage Recording: September 25, 2023

Amount claimed due on date of notice: $12,356.89

Description of the mortgaged premises: Situated in Township of Wayland, Allegan County, Michigan, and described as: Land situated in the Township of Wayland, Allegan County, Michigan: That part of the West 1/2, Northeast 1/4 of Section 15, Town 3 North, Range 11 West, described as: Commencing at the North 1/4 corner of said section; thence South 00 degrees 00 minutes West 1375.54 feet along the West line of said Northeast 1/4 to the point of beginning; thence South 00 degrees 00 minutes West 604.52 feet along said West line; thence South 89 degrees 14 minutes 36 seconds East 1314.65 feet along the South line of the North 40 acres of the South 60 acres of said West 1/2 Northeast 1/4; thence North 00 degrees 02 minutes West 464.00 feet along the East Line of said West 1/2, Northeast 1/4; thence North 83 degrees 09 minutes West 1323.71 feet to the point of beginning.

Common street address (if any): 3126 5th St, Wayland, MI 49348-9755

The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCL 600.3241a; or, if the subject real property is used for agricultural purposes as defined by MCL 600.3240(16).

If the property is sold at foreclosure sale under Chapter 32 of the Revised Judicature Act of 1961, pursuant to MCL 600.3278 the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period.

Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice.

This notice is from a debt collector.

Date of notice: October 9, 2025

Trott Law, P.C.

31440 Northwestern Hwy, Suite 145

Farmington Hills, MI 48334

(248) 642-2515

1573905

(10-09)(10-30)

SHORT FORECLOSURE NOTICE - ALLEGAN COUNTY Notice of Foreclosure by Advertisement. Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Allegan County, starting promptly at 9:00 AM, on November 06, 2025. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of the sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information. MORTGAGE: Mortgagor(s): Brady James Visser, a single man, as sole owner Original Mortgagee: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc. ("MERS"), solely as nominee for lender and lender`s successors and assigns Date of mortgage: December 28, 2023 Recorded on January 5, 2024, Liber 4913, on Page 160, Foreclosing Assignee (if any): United Wholesale Mortgage, LLC Amount claimed to be due at the date hereof: One Hundred Five Thousand Sixteen and 59/100 Dollars ($105,016.59) Mortgaged premises: Situated in Allegan County, and described as: LOT 5, BLOCK 6, RAILROAD ADDITION TO THE VILLAGE (NOW CITY) OF PLAINWELL, AS RECORDED IN LIBER 44 OF PLATS, PAGE 198, ALLEGAN COUNTY RECORDS. Commonly known as 113 Broad St, Plainwell, MI 49080 The redemption period will be 6 month from the date of such sale, unless abandoned under MCL 600.3241a, in which case the redemption period will be 30 days from the date of such sale, or 15 days from the MCL 600.3241a(b) notice, whichever is later; or unless extinguished pursuant to MCL 600.3238. If the above referenced property is sold at a foreclosure sale under Chapter 32 of Act 236 of 1961, under MCL 600.3278, the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period. Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice. United Wholesale Mortgage, LLC Mortgagee/Assignee Schneiderman & Sherman P.C. 23938 Research Dr, Suite 300 Farmington Hills, MI 48335 248.539.7400

1574400

(10-09)(10-30)

STATE OF MICHIGAN

COUNTY OF KENT

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Decedent's Trust

The Ethel M. Lagendyk Trust u/a/d 06/03/2003, Tammy L. Shoemaker and Richard H. Lagendyk, Co-Trustees

Date of Trust: June 3, 2003

Date of Birth of Decedent/Grantor: 11/16/1934

TO ALL CREDITORS: *

NOTICE TO CREDITORS:

The decedent, Ethel M. Lagendyk, who lived at 219 Alpine Street, Wayland , Michigan died June 8, 2025

Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the Trust will be forever barred unless presented toTammy Shoemaker or Richard H. Lagendyk , the named Co-Trustees within 4 months after the date of publication of this notice.

September 30, 2025

Erik H. Jesson {P43510)

2010 - 44" Street SE

Grand Rapids, MI 49508

(616)455-5200

Tammy Shoemaker, 5270 Squier Lane, Middleville, MI 49333

Richard H. Lagendyk, 4223 Fenwick Drive, Dorr, MI 49323

Tammy Shoemaker (269) 330-5588

TO ALL PERSONS, including: (specify non-custodial parent's name here, if applicable)

whose address is unknown and whose interest in the matter may be barred or affected by the following:

TAKE NOTICE: LEXIE ELLEN DOWLER has filed a petition for name change.

A name change hearing will be held on NOVEMBER 13, 2025 AT 10:30 AM at FAMILY COURT COURTROOM before Judge Hon. Jolene Clearwater P74848 , to change the name of:LEXIE ELLEN DOWLER to LEXIE ELLEN MCCOWAN

Notice of Foreclosure by Advertisement

Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Allegan County, starting promptly at 9:00 AM, on November 20, 2025. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information:

Name(s) of the mortgagor(s): Tanya Baclich, an unmarried woman

Original Mortgagee: Mortgage Center, LLC

Foreclosing Assignee (if any): None

Date of Mortgage: November 17, 2021

Date of Mortgage Recording: November 24, 2021

Amount claimed due on date of notice: $168,631.41

Description of the mortgaged premises: Situated in City of Otsego, Allegan County, Michigan, and described as: The Westerly 78 feet of the Northerly 99 feet of the Easterly 165 feet of Block 15, Original Plat of the Village (now City) of Otsego, according to the Plat thereof as recorded in Liber 5 of Plats, Page 231, Allegan County Records.

Common street address (if any): 116 E Morrell St, Otsego, MI 49078-1330

The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCL 600.3241a; or, if the subject real property is used for agricultural purposes as defined by MCL 600.3240(16).

If the property is sold at foreclosure sale under Chapter 32 of the Revised Judicature Act of 1961, pursuant to MCL 600.3278 the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period.

Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice.

This notice is from a debt collector.

Date of notice: October 16, 2025

Trott Law, P.C.

31440 Northwestern Hwy, Suite 145

Farmington Hills, MI 48334

(248) 642-2515

1574800

(10-16)(11-06)

STATE OF MICHIGAN

48TH CIRCUIT COURT-FAMILY

DIVISION

ALLEGAN COUNTY

PUBLICATION OF HEARING

CASE NO. 25-70762-DL PETITION NO. I

Court Address: 113 Chestnut, Allegan, MI 49010

TO:ALLEGAN COUNTY NEWS

241 HUBBARD STREET

ALLEGAN, MI 49010

IN THE MATTER OF: DI'OR KNIGHT

A BENCH TRIAL TO ESTABLISH JURISDICTION OVER THE MINOR CHILD will be conducted by the court on NOVEMBER 26, 2025 at 1:00 P.M. in 48TH CIRCUIT COURT - FAMILY DIVISION before HONORABLE JOLENE A. CLEARWATER. You have the right to an attorney and the right to a trial by a judge or jury.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that MARCUS PERKINS AND BRITTANY PERKINS-BOWLBY personally appear before the court at the time and place stated above. This hearing may result in the Termination of your parental rights. 113 Chestnut St. Allegan, MI 49010, Family Division.

Dated: 10/10/2025

Judge Jolene A. Clearwater (P74848)

STATE OF MICHIGAN

48TH CIRCUIT COURT-FAMILY DIVISION

ALLEGAN COUNTY

PUBLICATION OF HEARING

CASE NO. 25-70555-NA PETITION NO. I

Court Address: 113 Chestnut, Allegan, MI 49010

TO:ALLEGAN COUNTY NEWS

241 HUBBARD STREET

ALLEGAN, MI 49010

IN THE MATTER OF: JASPER RININGER

A PUTATIVE FATHER HEARING will be conducted by the court on NOVEMBER 7, 2025 at 10:00 A.M.-IN PERSON in 48TH CIRCUIT COURT-FAMILY DIVISION before REFEREE KASSON. You have the right to an attorney and the right to a trial by a judge or jury.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED that HARLEY THRONTON personally appear before the court at the time and place stated above. This hearing may result in the Termination of your parental rights. 113 Chestnut St. Allegan, MI 49010, Family Division.

Dated: 10/10/25

Judge Jolene Clearwater (P74848)

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Decedent's Trust Estate

Arlene Jager ("Decedent")

Date of Decedent's Birth: November 11, 1938 Name of Trust: Jager Living Trust dated February 14, 1997

NOTICE TO CREDITORS: Decedent, Arlene Jager died September 10, 2025. There is no personal representative of Decedent's estate to whom Letters of Authority have been issued. Creditors of Decedent are notified that all claims against the Decedent, Decedent's estate, and/or Decedent's trust(s) will be forever barred unless presented to Trustee Wanda L. VerBeek within four (4) months after the date of publication of this notice.

Date: October 2, 2025

Douglas J. Brackmann (P-40885)

WESSELING & BRACKMANN P.C.

6439 28th Avenue

Hudsonville, Michigan 49426

(616) 669-8185

Wanda L. VerBeek

231 Woodlawn Ct

Zeeland, MI 49464

TO ALL PERSONS, including: (specify non-custodial parent's name here, if applicable)

whose address is unknown and whose interest in the matter may be barred or affected by the following:

TAKE NOTICE: ASHLEY LYNN BENDER has filed a petition for name change.

A name change hearing will be held on NOVEMBER 19, 2025 AT 10:00 A.M. at FAMILY COURT COURTROOM before Judge Hon. Jolene Clearwater P74848 , to change the name of: ASHLEY LYNN BENDER to ASHLEY LYNN KISSINGER

NOTICE OF FORECLOSURE BY ADVERTISEMENT. Notice is given under section 3212 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.3212, that the following mortgage will be foreclosed by a sale of the mortgaged premises, or some part of them, at a public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash or cashier's check at the place of holding the circuit court in Allegan County, starting promptly at 9:00 a.m. on November 20, 2025. The amount due on the mortgage may be greater on the day of sale. Placing the highest bid at the sale does not automatically entitle the purchaser to free and clear ownership of the property. A potential purchaser is encouraged to contact the county register of deeds office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge a fee for this information: Name(s) of the mortgagor(s): James Henry Starling, a single person and Melissa Kay Weimer, a single person. Original Mortgagee: 21st Mortgage Corporation. Date of Mortgage: December 23, 2019. Date of Mortgage Recording: December 26, 2019 in Liber 4415, Page 895, Allegan County Records, Michigan. Amount claimed due on date of notice: two hundred thirteen thousand eight hundred ninety-nine and 71/100 Dollars ($213,899.71), including interest. Description of the mortgaged premises: Situated in the Township of Manlius, County of Allegan, State of Michigan, to wit: Remainder of Parent Parcel - Beginning at the North 1/4 post of Section 21, Town 3 North, Range 15 West, Township of Manlius, Allegan County, Michigan; thence South 00 degrees 02 minutes 10 seconds West on the North and South 1/4 line, 1858.42 feet to the centerline of Old Allegan Road; thence North 40 degrees 21 minutes 20 seconds West on same, 954.62 feet; thence North 54 degrees 50 minutes 44 seconds East 437.40 feet; thence North 40 degrees 21 minutes 20 seconds West 600.00 feet; thence North 54 degrees 50 minutes 44 seconds East 13.65 feet; thence East 313.75 feet; thence North 00 degrees 02 minutes 10 seconds East 414.00 feet to the North Section line; thence East on same, 325.00 feet to the place of beginning and all improvements thereon. Common street address: 5510 130th Avenue, Fennville, Michigan 49408. The redemption period shall be 6 months from the date of such sale, unless determined abandoned in accordance with MCL 600.3241a; in which case the redemption period shall be 30 days from the date of such sale, or upon the expiration of the notice required by MCL 600.3241a(c), whichever is later; or unless MCL 600.3240(16) applies. If the property is sold at foreclosure sale under Chapter 32 of the Revised Judicature Act of 1961, pursuant to MCL 600.3278 the borrower will be held responsible to the person who buys the property at the mortgage foreclosure sale or to the mortgage holder for damaging the property during the redemption period. Attention homeowner: If you are a military service member on active duty, if your period of active duty has concluded less than 90 days ago, or if you have been ordered to active duty, please contact the attorney for the party foreclosing the mortgage at the telephone number stated in this notice. This notice is from a debt collector attempting to collect a debt. Any information we obtain will be used for that purpose. This sale may be rescinded or set aside by the foreclosing mortgagee. In such event, damages, if any, shall be limited solely to the return or refund of the bid amount tendered at such sale, together with interest. Dated: October 6, 2025 21st Mortgage Corporation, Mortgagee By: Richard A. Green Law Offices of Richard A. Green 30150 Telegraph Road, Ste. 444 Bingham Farms, MI 48025 (248) 924-2354 10/16/25, 10/23/25, 10/30/25, 11/6/25

(10-16)(11-06)

CLASSIFIEDS

Lawsuit

IF YOU HAD KNEE OR HIP REPLACEMENT SURGERY and suffered an infection between 2022 and the present time, you may be entitled to compensation. Call Attorney Charles H. Johnson1-800-535-5727

Misc.

No more cleaning out gutters. Guaranteed! LeafFilter is backed by a no-clog guarantee and lifetime transferrable warranty. Call today 1-866-495-1709 to schedule a FREE inspection and no obligation estimate. Plus get 75% off installation and a bonus $250 discount! Limited time only. Restrictions apply, see representative for warranty and offer details.

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Prepare for power outages today with a Generac Home Standby Generator. Act now to receive a FREE 5-Year warranty with qualifying purchase. Call 1-855-773-8191 today to schedule a free quote. It's not just a generator. It's a power move.

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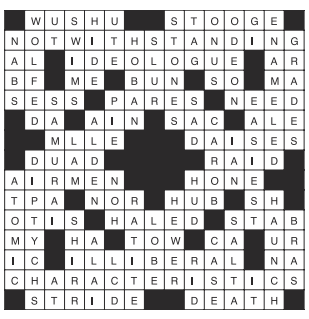

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5	6	7	4	9	2	3	8	1
8	2	3	7	5	9	6	1	4
9	5	4	1	6	3	7	2	8
7	1	6	8	2	4	9	5	3

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& DEVELOPMENT CO.
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• Site Preps
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269-673-4791
www.wraysseptic.com
1148 Lincoln Road, Allegan

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673-6352
Babylon Road, Allegan

RELIGION SECTION

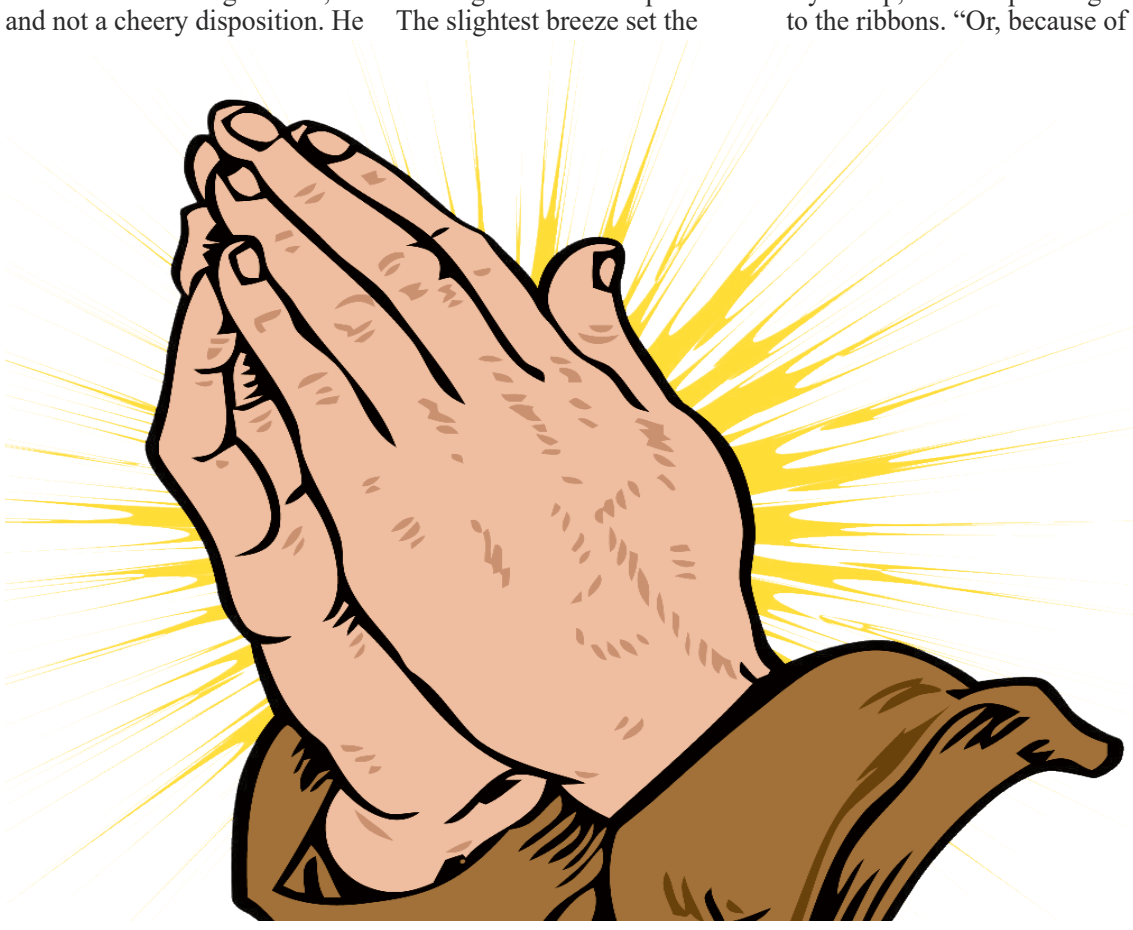
One of our Saugatuck residents is a certified OLD GOAT, and it is a term of honor and respect. In this case, Old Goat refers to someone who has lived to tell the tale of sailing at least twenty-five times in the Chicago to Mackinac races. It is a very great accomplishment, and there are not many Old Goats, at least in our area.

In the ninth chapter of St Mark's Gospel we read about another type of goat. We are told that Jesus and the disciples were walking through Galilee, and as people do when they are on a hike, they were talking In this case they were vying for the title of GOAT-D - Greatest Of All Time Disciple. Which one of them was the most important? Who was closest to Jesus, the hardest worker, the smartest, the over-all best?

Jesus asked about their conversation, and the disciples reluctantly and perhaps very shame-facedly told him. Our Lord's response was to tell them to knock it off. It is not your status that counts; it is participating in the Kingdom of God and doing our part to promote it.

That also means we sometimes must back off and be certain we understand why someone does something instead of jumping to conclusions.

Years ago, I got to know Elmer B., an elderly farmer who had the nickname of the King of Glads It turned out to be for his flowers - gladiolas, and not a cheery disposition. He was a truly sour and unhappy man. For decades he had won most of the ribbons in the floral division at the Mower County fair, and they were all carefully attached to some wires than ran the length of the front parlor. The slightest breeze set the blowing and fluttering.



One day when I stopped by to see him, he brushed a couple of sleeping cats off a chair and ordered me to sit down. "Most people think I did it to puff myself up," he said pointing to the ribbons. "Or, because of the prize money." He pulled a Funks seed corn notebook out of the pocket of his over-alls and said, "I figure I made about $200 in prize money over fifty-three years. So, I guess you can say I didn't do it for the money. I did it because I enjoyed growing gladiolas. And I kept the ribbons because they were nice enough to give it to me. After a while it became a habit. So did giving away the flowers to the churches."

When he died two years later a few people told of how Elmer's gladiolas had turned up at every church event in the area, and how brides came to select stems for their wedding. Others mentioned a bouquet would turn up at the front desk of the hospital or nursing home. No name attached to it, but everyone knew where they came from.

When I read and study this passage, I think of Elmer and so many others who simply get on with doing the work of Jesus and give deeply from the heart and turned away from self-glory. People like Elmer are living examples.

G C Stoppel
Priest Associate
Episcopal Church of the
Good Shepherd, Allegan, MI

Directory of Area Churches

Allegan Assembly of God
424 DeLano St, Allegan
Pastors Tim Heath & Paul Hays
Church: 673-6577

Allegan Bible Church
412 S. Sherman, Allegan
Pastor Jon Gruss
Church: 673-6831

Allegan Christian Center
700 Ely St., Allegan
Paul Knuckles, Pastor
Church: 673-2921

Allegan County Jail
Chaplain Sarah Montgomery
Phone: 673-0350

Allegan United Methodist Church
Corner Walnut & Trowbridge streets, Allegan
Pastor Julia Humenik
Church: 673-4236;

At the Master's Feet
814 21st St., Otsego
269-694-6897
Paster Ray Brown

Blessed Sacrament Church
110 N. Cedar Street, Allegan
Fr. Simon Manjooran
Church: 673-4455

Bloomingdale Bible Church
210 Chestnut at Pine NW
Bloomin gdale
Ofc. 269-427-2101

Bravo Community Church
5587 113th Ave., Fennville
Pastor Duane Terpstra
616-886-1214

Burnips United Methodist
4241 30th, Burnips
Craig VanBeek, Pastor
616-896-8410

Calvary Church of Wayland (IFCA)
304 S. Main Street, Wayland
Pastor Chad Peckham
ccwayland.org

Casco United Methodist Church
880 66th Street, South Haven
Sunday Worship 10:00 a.m.
269-227-3328
www.cascoumc.org

Chicora Country Chapel
4399 108th Ave., Allegan
Pastor Herb Curry
Phone: 269-370-5834

Christ Community Church
3370 113th Ave., Allegan
www.alleganccc.org ·
(269) 673-2329
Pastor Wally Coots

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints
687 Linn Street, Allegan
Church: 673-9617

Church of God - Otsego
112 Kalamazoo St., Otsego
Pastor Stephen Burrow Sr.
269-694-9481
www.otsegocog.com

Corner Bible Church
4001 124th Allegan
673-5995
www.cornerbiblechurch.com

CrossWind Community Church
1632 142nd Avenue
Dorr, MI 49323
616-359-9013
Pastor Tommy Boutell

Dunningville Reformed Church
2559 M-40, Allegan
Church: 751-5894
Pastor Eric Burrows-Stone
dunningville.org/index.html

East Martin Christian Reformed Church
510-118th Ave., Martin
269-672-5746
www.eastmartincrc.org

Epiphany Lutheran Church (LCMS)
4219 Parklane, Dorr
www.epiphanydorr.org
Sunday service at 9:15 a.m., Bible Study and Sunday School following

Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd
101 North Walnut St, Allegan
Office: 673-2254

Faith Baptist Church
2846 125th Ave., Allegan
John Looman, Pastor
673-5040 1-888-354-3272

Fennville Assembly of God
5897 124th Ave.
Fennville, MI 49408
269-561-2683

Fennville United Methodist Church
5849 124th St., Fennville
269-561-5048
Bob Lynch, Pastor
www.fennvilleumc.org

First Presbyterian Church
200 Cutler Street, Allegan
Church: 673-4631
www.fpcallegan.org
10:00 service time.

First Baptist Church
1290 32nd St., Allegan
Service at 10:00am
Pastors Nathan Smith & Brendon Bayley
www.fbcallegan.com

First Baptist Church of Otsego
247 E Allegan St., Otsego
(269) 694-4160
firstbaptist@fbcotsego.org

First Church of God
1313 Marshall Street, Allegan
269 673-3881
www.pathtohim.org
Pastor, Tim Secord

First Congregational Church
323 Cutler Street, Allegan
Church Office: 673-3139
Pastor Todd Wagner

First Congregational Church
120 W. Morrell St., Otsego
269-694-6085
Pastor Lenny Luchetti

First Presbyterian Church of Plainwell
303 East Bridge St.
Plainwell, MI 49080
685-5990

Friendship Bible Church
104 Baker St., Hopkins, MI
Pastor Chris Cronk and Worship Pastor Tony Caldarona
Office 793-7929

Ganges Baptist Church
6577 122nd Avenue, Fennville
269-543-4203
11AM each Sunday

Ganges United Methodist Church
2218 68th St
Fennville MI 49408
Phone 269-543-3581
Lay Minister - Marcia A. Tucker

Grace Church of Hamilton
3690 Lincoln Rd. P.o. Box 97
Hamilton Mi 49419
269.264.4900
Gracechurchofhamilton@gmail.com

Haven Church
PO Box 1
4691 Oak Street, Hamilton
(269)751-7300
Pastor Mike Drew
FB:havenreformedchurch

Hope Lutheran Church
290 12th St., Plainwell
(269) 685-1348
Pastor Nicole Smith
Worship 10:30am; S. School 9:15am

Hopkins Community Reformed Church
2142 128th Ave., Hopkins
(269) 793-7361
hopkinscommunitychurch.net

Hopkins United Methodist Church
322 N. Maple St., Hopkins
(269) 793-7323
Pastor Kelsey French

Horseshoe Community Bible Church
4950 104th Avenue, Grand Junction
269-521-4580 ·
Pastor Don Miller

Immanuel Lutheran Church
631 Grand Street, Allegan
Church: 673-3335
Rev. Christopher Laughlin

Kingdom Hall of Jehovah's Witness
2199 Taft Road, Allegan
Phone: 673-6179

Living Waters Community Church
5458 M-89, Fennville
Service: 10:30 Sundays
Pastor Andrew Leach
269-561-5277

Martin Reformed Church
1073 W. Allegan St., Martin
Pastor: Matthew Hendricks
672-5596

Martin United Methodist Church
969 E. Allegan St., Martin
Pastor Margaret Stoken
269-672-7097
www.martinumc.org

Merson Church
3313 102nd Ave., Gobles, MI
Office: 673-5274
www.mersonchurch.org

Montage Ministries
"A Community in Worship"
Griswold Auditorium
Tuesdays 6:30-8:00pm

Monterey Center United Methodist Church
3022 130th Ave.
Monterey Center, 49328
Craig VanBeek, Pastor
793-7288

Mt. Calvary M.B. Church
5425 105th Ave., Pullman
Pastor Everett Belue
269-382-3405

New Hope Baptist Church
2011 Lincoln Road (M-40 N)
Pastor Tadd Butler
673-1938

Northbridge Church
8824 Douglas, Kalamazoo
269-385-4378 ·
www.northbridge.cc

Northpoint Ministries
04077 M40 (M40/CR390)
Gobles MI · 269.628.9199
Pastor Gary Lounsberry
Sunday Worship: 11am

OAKLAND CRC
4460 38th Street
Hamilton. Mi. 49419
616 688 5290
Pastor Mark Vande Zande

Otsego United Methodist Church
223 E Allegan St. Otsego MI
10:00 a.m. Worship
Reverend Dan Minor
Otsegomethodistchurch.org

Pathfinder North Church
(A Global Methodist Church)
410 E. Orleans St.
Otsego, MI 49078
9:30 Fellowship 10:00 Worship
Rev Ron Hansen
Pathfindernorth.com

Peace Lutheran Church
805 S. Wilmott St., Otsego
www.peaceotsego.com
694-6104

Pearl United Methodist Church
1689 56th St., Fennville
269-561-5048 Worship 9:30 am
Bob Lynch, Pastor
www.fennvilleumc.org

Pentecostal Church of God I.M
2281 57th St, Fennville
Wed/Miércoles @ 7:00 pm
Sunday/Domingo @ 10:00 am
Worship Service @ 11:00am
Rev. Jeremias & Maribel Gaytan
231) 923-6887 - (231) 923-6959
Email: gytnj@yahoo.com

Plainwell First Baptist Church
404 W. Bridge St., Plainwell
(269) 685-8888
Pastor George Osborn

Plainwell First United Methodist Church
200 Park St. Plainwell
269-685-5113
www.fumcplainwell.com

Rectify Church
247 N. Main St., Allegan
616-218-1556
Pastor Sarah Montgomery

Redemption Place Church of God
1900 M-40, Allegan
Pastor Deborah Lesher
Church: 269-355-1167

Refreshing Springs Ministries
201 Briggs St., Allegan
616-510-7416
Pastor Adrian Hall

River of Life Church
605 W. Allegan, Otsego
269-672-9904
www.alleganchurch.com

Seventh Day Adventist Church
229 Cutler Street, Allegan
Dan Rachor, Pastor
Church: 673-3284

Shelbyville United Methodist Church
938 124th Ave., Shelbyville
672-7097 - Church office
Pastor Margaret Stoken

South Monterey United Methodist Church
Pastor Kelsey French
Church: 793-7323

St. Francis of Assisi Episcopal Church
11850 9 Mile Rd., Shelbyville
269-664-4345
Service: Sundays 9:30 am

Saint John's Church Of God In Christ
716 Academy St, Allegan
Rev. Jeremiah Johnson Sr.
Phone: 673-8590—673-3007

St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church
1764 34th St., Allegan
Pastor Ronald Kruse 673-2079
Sunday Worship 11:00 a.m.

St. Margaret's Catholic Church
766 S. Farmer St., Otsego
269-694-6311

Third Coast Community Church
www.thirdcoastff.org |
269.857.5633
6069 Blue Star Hwy, Saugatuck, MI 49453
Sunday Worship: 10:00am

Trowbridge Community Church
355 26th Street, Otsego
Pastor Mykel Hall, Pastor
Church: 673-5502

Unity Baptist Church
35 14 12th St. Wayland
Pastor Kelly Ryan
Cell # (269) 330-2217

Watson Bible Church
1626 116th St., Otsego
Pastor Tim Morris
672-2166

Wayland Community Church
502 West Superior, Wayland
(616) 877-6134
Worship Sunday @ 10:30am

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